

# Yellow Southend Advertiser

Week ending Friday January 13, 2017

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## Local News

Southend, Leigh, Belfairs, Prittlewell, Marine Estate, Chalkwell, Westcliff, Southchurch, Thorpe Bay, Shoebury, Great Wakering, Eastwood

# OUR AIR IS TOXIC!



**HEALTH RISK:** Campaigners are urging councils to do more to monitor air pollution  
Photo by Mark Cleveland

## COUNCILS 'PAYING LIP SERVICE' AS POLLUTION BREACHES LEGAL LIMIT

### EXCLUSIVE

By Charles Thomson

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CAMPAIGNERS have called for more action on air quality as pollution continues to hit illegal levels across Southend, Rochford and Castle Point.

The South East Essex Action Group Alliance (SEEAGA) has urged councils to carry out comprehensive air pollution monitoring. Data shows average annual nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) readings are exceeding safe levels.

The law states that NO<sub>2</sub> levels must not exceed an annual average of 40 microgrammes per cubic metre of air – but the most recent

data shows this is being breached in several areas. NO<sub>2</sub> is toxic if inhaled and, at levels above the legal limit, can reduce lung function, aggravate asthma and cause respiratory illness.

Council data shows that in Southend, 10 monitoring stations registered average annual NO<sub>2</sub> readings above the legal limit last year. The highest was in Prince Avenue, at 63 microgrammes, almost 60 per cent over the legal level.

Separate figures from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) show levels repeatedly hit between 60 and 80 microgrammes last week in Chalkwell Park, Southend.

A monitoring station at the cor-

ner of Link Road and Somnes Avenue, Canvey Island, recorded illegal levels every year since 2009, with the most recent in 2015 at 43 microgrammes.

Others in Benfleet's London Road, Kiln Road and Tarpots recorded illegal NO<sub>2</sub> levels until they were decommissioned in 2010 and 2011.

In Rochford, seven monitoring stations recorded illegal NO<sub>2</sub> levels for 2016. The worst, at Eastwood Road and Websters Way, recorded 60 microgrammes.

The SEEAGA is a union of 12 groups set up to scrutinise plans to develop green land. Members come from Basildon, Benfleet, Billericay, Bowers Gifford, Daws Heath, Dunton, Hullbridge,

Ramsden Bellhouse, Rayleigh, Rochford and Wickford.

Group leader Dr Phillip Gibbs said it was not just NO<sub>2</sub> which posed a health risk but sulphur dioxide and small particles such as PM10s. However, most councils only test for NO<sub>2</sub>.

He said: "Councils are just paying lip service to their legal duties, which require them to monitor and manage air quality."

Southend Council said it has recently declared a new Air Quality Management Zone around Cuckoo Corner and The Bell, and is recruiting a dedicated air quality monitoring officer.

A spokesman added that ongoing roadworks aim to prevent static traffic polluting the area.

## Conmen pose as water company repairman to defraud woman of cash

A WOMAN in her 60s was conned out of a four-figure sum of cash by fraudsters in Southend.

Two men called at an address in Park Street at 2pm on Friday, January 6 and told her they were from the water company.

They said they needed to complete urgent work to sewage pipes or it would cause thousands of pounds of damage.

The men claimed they required a four-figure sum of cash to complete the work and if it was not done that day, it would cost more to repair. They drove her to Elmer Approach and told her to go into a bank on High Street to withdraw the money.

When she returned to the vehicle she found four men waiting.

They took the cash and drove off and no work was done.

PC Alex Farr said: "This is a vulnerable, elderly female victim who has been targeted by people with the intent to defraud her out of a substantial amount of money. I would like to hear from anyone who had a knock at their door in the Park Street area by men claiming to be from the water company on January 6."

"Likewise, if you saw a dirty white vehicle believed to be a

hatchback on or near to Elmer Approach please get in contact."

He added: "If someone knocks at your door, always ask for identification – all genuine callers will have ID and won't mind you asking to see it. If you're still not sure, ask them to come back another time."

Anyone with information can call PC Farr at Southend on 101, quoting reference number 42/12255/17.

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# New chief exec for Southend Hospital

By Michael Cox

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SOUTHEND Hospital has appointed a new chief executive.

Clare Panniker has been announced as the new chief exec and accountable officer for Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

She is also chief executive of both Basildon and Thurrock University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Mid Essex Hospitals NHS Trust.

A spokesman for Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust said that the appointment follows the agreement by the hospital trust boards in mid and south Essex in December to appoint a single chief executive/accountable officer and executive team to lead the three organisations.

The trust's chairman Alan Tobias OBE made the announcement following a formal selection process and approval of the appointment from its Council of Governors.

The trust announced last Tuesday that Sue Hardy was stepping down from the role of chief executive.

He said: "I am pleased we have appointed Clare to lead Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.



**NEW ROLE:** Clare Panniker

"Clare's leadership and guidance will enable us to respond effectively and collaboratively in what are no doubt exciting but challenging times ahead, as we work together to ensure we are able to continue to provide the best possible services for our patients."

He added that executive directors do not set their own salaries, which are determined by the trust's remuneration committee, and confirmed that the committee had not yet met in respect of the roles.

In a response to the *Yellow*



**STEPPING DOWN:** Sue Hardy

*Advertiser* asking whether Ms Hardy would receive financial payment as a result of leaving the role, Mr Tobias said: "It is not our policy to comment on the contract of employment of individual staff members other than that which is required to appear in the annual accounts."

Ms Panniker will be supported in her role at Southend by the appointment of chief nurse Yvonne Blucher as managing director, who's remit will include overseeing the day-to-day running of the hospital site.

Ms Panniker said: "It is an absolute privilege to be appointed as the chief executive at Southend University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

"With increasing demand for our services, the provision of compassionate, high-quality patient care has never been more important than it is today and, collectively, we now have the best chance of building a strong foundation for the future.

"I am looking forward to working with staff, our partners and our communities to ensure that we continue to deliver the very best possible care for the people of Southend and surrounding areas."

Mr Tobias added that Ms Hardy had guided the trust through an "increasingly challenging period".

He said: "I would like to offer the formal thanks of the board for all her work on our behalf and we wish her every success for the future."

Ms Hardy said it had been a privilege to have been the trust's chief executive over the past two years.

She commented: "It is now time to step aside and pursue other opportunities as the trust moves into a new era. I wish the trust and all of the wonderful staff who care for our patients, every success for the future."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

● **SOUTHEND Council** could be set to outsource the running of the town's general market to an external operator.

A recommendation made to the council's cabinet, in a report by Emma Cooney, director of regeneration and business development, approves outsourcing the market to an "experienced" external operator.

The general market has been running since October 2013, and has grown to 20 stall holders.

The report said that to further expand and enhance the market, the available resources need to be assessed to see whether it would be to the detriment of other town centre management activities.

It adds: "The aim is to provide a vibrant, sustainable offer to the public whilst achieving a viable market for both the council and the market operator."

The report also revealed initial 'soft market' testing to find out levels of interest in the outsourcing of the market had identified two potential opportunities.

A decision was due to be taken by the cabinet on Tuesday January 10, after the *Y4* had gone to press.

● **A JAZZ centre** in Southend could develop and expand its programme.

A report that was set to go to Southend Council's cabinet outlines plans to grow the Jazz Centre (UK) in the Beecroft Gallery.

The centre was created last year in partnership with the National Jazz Archive (NJA), which aims to ensure the cultural heritage of jazz is safeguarded for future generations. It contains a sound archive and jazz memorabilia, and is open to the public on Saturdays between 10am and 4pm.

The report, prepared by Rosemary Pennington, the council's cultural development manager, said that the jazz musician Digby Fairweather has been the key driver in the project and has used his influence to support the initiative.

The next jazz performance takes place at 2pm Saturday, January 14.

## Essex NHS Trusts silent on need for separate CEOs

THREE hospital trusts have refused to answer questions about whether they needed full-time CEOs.

Although Clare Panniker has been joint CEO of the Mid Essex Trust and the Basildon and Thurrock Trust since last spring, both trusts – and Southend – previously had their own CEOs.

Following the announcement that Ms Panniker will now run all three,

the *Y4* contacted each trust to ask whether the decision meant the hospitals had previously paid individual full-time CEOs they did not need, or whether they were now being forced to share one when in fact they needed one each.

All three trusts refused to comment on which was the case, and instead released identical statements, attrib-

uted to Ms Panniker.

The statements said: "As chief executive of the three trusts, my role is to provide strategic leadership of the executive team and clinical directors across the three sites and to support the managing directors at each trust.

"The managing directors of each trust are responsible for leading the local senior leadership teams and are

crucial in supporting the joint executive group in managing the day-to-day running of the hospitals.

"This is a new and different management structure that will enable us to work much more closely together to realise our ambition of creating centres of excellence."

The trusts also declined to reveal Ms Panniker's salary.

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# Jump the Q tickets to see three stage shows

WITH the new year in full swing, it is time to think about injecting some more theatre into your life this spring.

To help get you started, Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch, is offering two lucky winners a pair of its highly sought after Jump the Q season tickets each to see three fantastic Queen's Theatre productions.

You will see TV stars Charlie Condou of Coronation Street and Call The Midwife's Victoria Yeates in the spring season opening show, The Crucible.

Written by renowned playwright Arthur Miller, the terrifying witch-hunt classic about the infamous Salem witch trials runs from February 17 to March 11.



You will then join in with the biggest party of the year with the smash-hit comedy Worst Wedding Ever, from March 15 to April 1.

Penned by Chris Chibnall,



Broadchurch writer and soon to be executive producer of Doctor Who in 2018, this laugh-out-loud rib-tickler about downsizing wedding preparations is set to be one of the biggest new comedies of the year and includes a live wedding band.

Finally, you will be treated to Willy Russell's timeless and inspirational comedy, Educating Rita, from April 22 to May 13.

The hilarious classic about a university professor and a gobby hairdresser, who wants to better herself, will offer something truly unique to Queen's Theatre audiences as the stage will be extended into the auditorium to offer a more intimate experience.

For your chance to win one of two pairs of tickets to see all three shows just answer the following question.

**Q: Charlie Condou appeared in which television soap?**

**A: EastEnders**  
**B: Coronation Street**  
**C: Emmerdale**

To enter the competition telephone your answer - A, B or C - to 0901 307 1688 with your name, address, telephone number and email.

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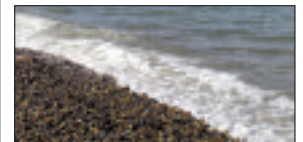


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## Tides



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<b>Fri:</b>	<b>0034</b>	<b>5.80</b>	<b>1256 6.00</b>
<b>Sat:</b>	<b>0120</b>	<b>5.90</b>	<b>1344 6.10</b>
<b>Sun:</b>	<b>0204</b>	<b>5.90</b>	<b>1430 6.00</b>
<b>Mon:</b>	<b>0246</b>	<b>5.80</b>	<b>1514 5.90</b>
<b>Tue:</b>	<b>0326</b>	<b>5.70</b>	<b>1557 5.60</b>
<b>Wed:</b>	<b>0405</b>	<b>5.50</b>	<b>1638 5.40</b>

**High tide at Tilbury: (GMT)**

<b>Thur:</b>	<b>0017</b>	<b>6.40</b>	<b>12.39 6.60</b>
<b>Fri:</b>	<b>0107</b>	<b>6.50</b>	<b>1330 6.70</b>
<b>Sat:</b>	<b>0153</b>	<b>6.60</b>	<b>1418 6.80</b>
<b>Sun:</b>	<b>0237</b>	<b>6.60</b>	<b>1505 6.80</b>
<b>Mon:</b>	<b>0320</b>	<b>6.50</b>	<b>1549 6.60</b>
<b>Tues:</b>	<b>0400</b>	<b>6.30</b>	<b>1631 6.30</b>
<b>Wed:</b>	<b>0439</b>	<b>6.10</b>	<b>1711 6.00</b>

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**SUPPORTING CARERS:** Ann Gill, of Trust Links, with volunteers Linda Burrige and Sue Turrell trial the cooking group

# Charity to set up groups for carers

A WESTCLIFF charity is looking to set up support groups for unpaid carers in Southend.

As part of the Southend Carers Consortium, Trust Links is aiming to create new groups which it hopes will build on ones it has been running in Westcliff for the last five years.

These include an anxiety management group, obsessive compulsive disorder support group, carers peer support group and weekly yoga relaxation classes.

The charity is consulting on the types of groups that could be set up, with ideas including a book group, walking group, cooking, crafts and regular coffee mornings.

Ann Gill, peer support and volunteer co-ordinator, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for

carers in Southend to meet others and enjoy time sharing their skills or learning new ones and sharing their experiences as a carer with others.

"We are looking for volunteers to help run groups and also keen to talk to as many carers as possible from across Southend so that we develop groups that really meet the needs of carers in the town."

Trust Links is looking for carers in Southend who would like to get involved and potential volunteers, including carers themselves, to help run the support groups.

Carers and volunteers are encouraged to contact Trust Links on 01702 213134 or email support@trustlinks.org for more information and to get involved.

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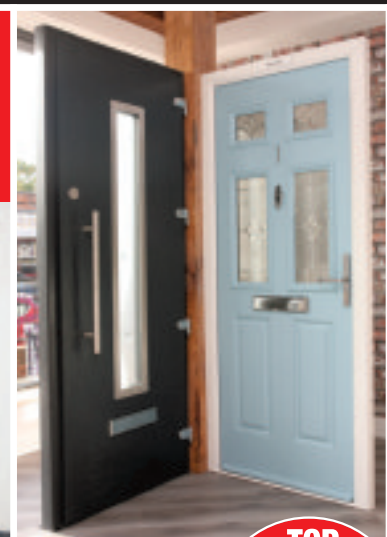
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# Tomorrow's world



CHILDREN at a Leigh school have been taking part in a science day. Year 6 pupils at Blenheim Primary School, in School Way, were involved in a variety of scientific activities as part of a 'Monstrous Science Inspiration Day'.

They also dressed up as literary characters as part of the event, which marked the start of their 'Monstrous Science' theme for this half-term.

Clare Garwood, the school's assistant headteacher and year 6 leader, explained that the inspiration day was designed to launch the theme and get the children excited about what they are going to be learning over the coming few weeks.

*Yellow Advertiser* photographer Martin Dalton visited the school on Friday and took these photos.



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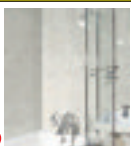
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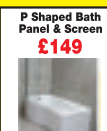
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**STAR WALL: The mural on Southend seafront**  
Photo by Martin Dalton



## Tribute to film star Carrie

A MURAL in honour of Carrie Fisher has been painted on Southend seafront.

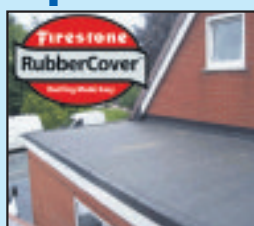
The artwork depicts the actress in one of her most famous film roles – Princess Leia in Star Wars.

It comes after the Hollywood star's death on a plane between London and the United States aged 60.

She died in a Los Angeles hospital after suffering a heart attack on a plane between London and the United States aged 60.

Her mother, actress Debbie Reynolds, 84, died a day later from a stroke.

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ROCHFORD: Tue 6.30pm	Clements Hall Leisure Centre, Clements Hall Way, Howickwell, SS5 4LN
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STOCK: Fri 8.30pm	Stock Village Hall, Common Rd, Nr Doctors & Bakers Arms Pub, CM4 9NF
BRENTWOOD: Thurs 7pm	Wesley Village Hall, nr Grayhound Pub, Magpie Lane, CM13 3DZ
BRENTWOOD: Fri 11.15am	Knights Way Centre, East Ham Estate, 32a Knights Way, CM13 3AZ
BRENTWOOD: Mon 11.15am	Knights Way Centre, Three Arches Estate, 32a Knights Way, CM13 3AZ
RAYLEIGH: Mon 7pm	Grange Centre, Little Whistley Close, Nr, New BP Garage, SS6 9EH
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RAYLEIGH: Mon 7.30pm	Grange Centre, Little Whistley Close, Nr New BP garage SS6 9EH
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WICKFORD: Fri 2.30pm	Our Lady's Hall, Opposite Doctors, 61 London Rd SS12 0AW
ROCHFORD: Wed 7.30pm	Clements Hall Leisure Centre, Clements Hall Way, Howickwell SS5 4LN
RAYLEIGH: Tues 2.30pm	Castle Hall, Castle Road, Nr Rayleigh refuse tip SS6 7DF

### INTERMEDIATE CLASSES

STOCK: Fri 8pm	Stock Village Hall, Common Rd, Nr Doctors & Bakers Arms Pub CM4 9NF
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# It's official, physical activity really does makes us feel happy

THE secret to happiness is only a tiny amounts of exercise, according to the UK's largest ever smartphone survey.

The study by University of Essex, based on reports from more than 10,000 individuals, is in the journal Plos One.

It demonstrates how smartphones can be used to collect large-scale data to examine psychological, behavioural and health-related phenomena in everyday life.

Using data gathered from users of a mood tracking app for Android phones, researchers found that modest levels of physical activity – even if it couldn't be classified as exercise – can increase a person's reported emotional well-being, regardless of their baseline level of happiness.

"Most of us don't keep track of all of our movements during the day," said study co-author Dr Gillian Sandstrom from the Department of Psychology at the University of Essex. A person might track whether they went for a walk or went to the gym, but when asked, most of them probably wouldn't remember walking from the desk to the photocopier, or from the car to the office door."



**REPORT: Information from Smartphone users reveals that even modest activity can make us happy**

The tests also found that people reported being happier when they were physically active.

Earlier studies had mixed results, with some finding that happier people report exercising more, while others have found no relationship between happiness and exercise.

Study co-author Professor Cecilia Mascolo, from Cambridge's Computer Laboratory, said: "This study shows how mobile and wearable technology really can allow social psychologists to

perform large longitudinal studies as well as open a direct and permanent connection with the users for advice and intervention."

Physical activity was passively gathered from smartphone accelerometers, and participants were also sent a short survey at two random intervals throughout the day which asked questions about their emotional state.

Users reported their emotional state on a grid, based on how positive or negative, and how energetic or sleepy, they were feeling. They were also asked a handful of questions about how their mood compared to normal.

"Our data show that happy people are more active in general," said the paper's senior author, Dr Jason Rentfrow, from Cambridge's Department of Psychology.

"There have been many studies about the positive psychological effects of exercise, but what we've found is that in order to be happier, you don't have to go out and run a marathon – all you've really got to do is periodically engage in slight physical activity throughout the day."

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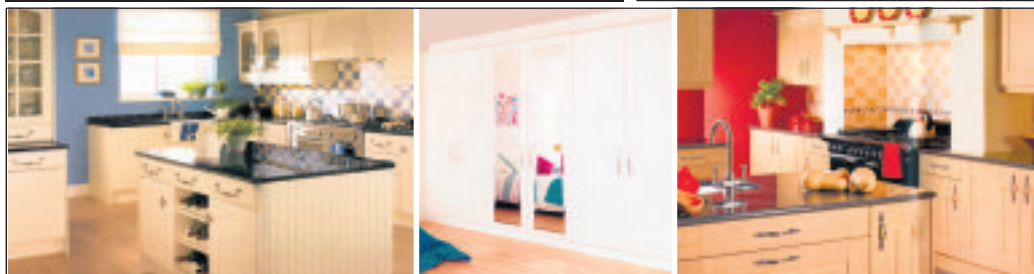
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## Nominations now open for Citizen of the Year awards

NOMINATIONS have opened for Rochford Council's Citizen of the Year awards.

The awards recognise and acknowledge people for their work and achievements in the district.

Council chairman Cllr Carole Weston, who will judge nominations, said: "The Citizen of the Year awards are the ideal opportunity to give special recognition to those who deserve it."

Individuals and groups can be nominated in young citizen (under 18), charitable support (all ages), and community spirit (all ages), categories. For an application form call 01702 318128, email [CivicOfficer@rochford.gov.uk](mailto:CivicOfficer@rochford.gov.uk), or go to [www.rochford.gov.uk/citizenoftheyear](http://www.rochford.gov.uk/citizenoftheyear) to vote online.

Forms are also available from council offices and the closing date is Sunday, February 5.



WELLBEING: Walkers relax after their stroll

## Volunteer and lead a health walk

SOUTHEND Council is encouraging people to volunteer as walk leaders to run free walks across the borough.

Walk this Way, the local health walks scheme, is looking to recruit

volunteer walk leaders.

There are three weekly walks, which each take between 30 minutes to one hour, in Leigh-on-Sea, Priory Park and Shoeburyness.

A walk leader would only need commit to one walk per month, although anyone can volunteer for as many walks as they wish.

A council spokesman said that as well as ensuring walks are friendly, safe and organised, walk leaders are ambassadors for walking and demonstrate the difference they can make to people's lives and how walking can improve fitness and mental and physical wellbeing.

Leaders will receive full training.

For more contact Lee Watson@Southend.gov.uk, or call him on 01702 212818.

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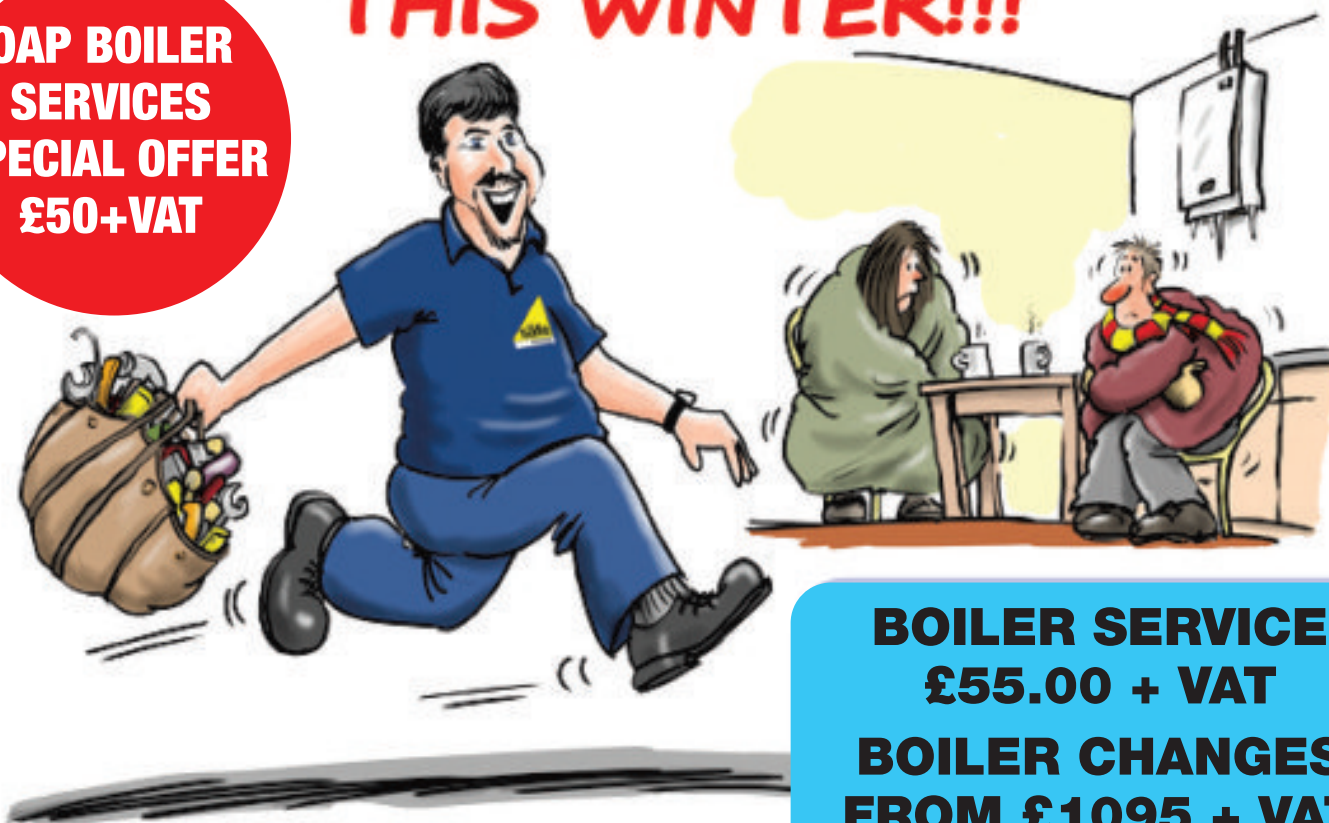
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## Don't make voting complicated

ANYTHING to improve our democracy. Anything. Literally. I want the best system we can devise – secure against fraud, easy to use and understand, fair.

I guess we are gradually creeping forwards, although we still lag behind much of the world in many aspects.

Recent changes may have been well intentioned, but I wonder whether we are throwing obstacles in the way of those wishing to express their suffrage. The process of registering and voting seems to be getting more complicated.

This worries me. In an era when, by and large, voter engagement at the ballot box is declining, making the process more complicated is not going to see increased turnout.

The latest change is the necessity for identification when casting your vote.

I cannot really argue against making the act of voting more secure against fraud, but I do have some observations.

The first concerns actually having identification – not everyone can readily get hold of ID. When I voted last year it

was less than two months after a house move, and proving my address at the beginning of May could have been problematical. (As it is, I vote by post which neatly avoids this hurdle.)

Secondly, what of those who turn up without ID – once turned away will they bother returning? I hope so, but as many political activists will tell you, actually persuading someone to go to a polling station can be a challenge, let alone encouraging a repeat visit in order to prove they are who they claim they are.

Thirdly, whilst busy polling stations are a rarity for local elections, during a general election there are peak times – a voting rush-hour so to speak. I have witnessed long queues.

Adding the requirement to check ID will slow down the process of voting, and at peak voting periods this could put people off; it could even mean exclusion of the polling station, it closes whilst they are waiting to exercise their democratic rights.

I hope common sense will prevail during busy periods.

This would mean either accepting the polling card as ID (as often happened in the past), or by doing sample checks as opposed to checking every voter.

We must have a fair and secure democracy, but we must also

encourage participation – not make the process more onerous.  
**Julian Ware-Lane**  
*Westcliff-on-Sea*

## Tragedy of homeless ex-soldier

YESTERDAY evening I came across a homeless man sitting in the damp and cold asking people for £1 so he could buy some chips.

Speaking to him, I found he was an ex-soldier who walked with a stick having shrapnel in his leg from the conflict in Iraq.

He told me he had spent Xmas and New year in the public toilets trying to keep warm.

On returning home I noticed on the TV that the head of the armed forces had recovered from her cold and had heroically attended church prior to leaving for her Norfolk Estate.

Perhaps when her new bathroom, for which we are paying, is complete she could find a space for the ex-soldier to doss down. Or perhaps the money should be spent on her bedroom, as I'm sure being the beneficiary of such injustice, she has trouble sleeping.

**David B. Marshall**  
*Southend*



### CRYPTIC CLUES ACROSS

1. Down tools – part of the organist's skill? (4,4)
5. Some less puritanical incentive (4)
9. Quit one side (4)
10. Finally part of one's purpose? (2,3,3)
11. Remove clothes ready for excursion to the south? (5)
12. Work in 2? (7)
13. Rate for somebody who apparently doesn't care? (8,5)
18. Ask to come here for a reading of the odds? (4,4)
19. The savvy to make a denial to you and me? (4)
20. It's very hard for the first man to contact a social worker (7)
21. Rebuke for having 100 to conceal (5)
22. Be obliged to indicate it's new wine (4)
23. Worthless finery at the card table? (8)

### DOWN

2. Its successes and failures are naturally dramatic (7)
3. Irishman's practical joke on father? (7)
4. Take elementary cover in a hurry, perhaps (3,3,7)
6. E.g. spare omen (7)
7. Communist leader with auburn hair? (7)
8. Three of them in company show great approval (6)
13. Bring into cultivation – miracle transformation! (7)
14. Grabs neckbands (7)
15. It's all right to have a lot around to examine (4,2)
16. Judy down in fist-fight? (5-2)
17. Do a cure in South America (7)

### QUICK CLUES ACROSS

1. Impede (8)
5. Release (4)
9. Hairless (4)
10. Avoided (8)
11. Trinket (5)
12. Aperture (7)
13. Forebodings (13)
18. Anticipated (8)
19. Prod (4)
20. Hair-wash (7)
21. Claw (5)
22. Profound (4)
23. Madness (8)

### DOWN

2. Brass-worker (7)
3. Irksome (7)
4. Wish impossibly (3,3,4)
6. Eastern European (7)
7. Interminable (7)
8. Cruelty (6)
13. Happy (7)
14. Atone for (7)
15. Flee (6)
16. Account for (7)
17. Extract (4,3)

### Last week's solutions

#### QUICK SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Induct; 4 Assist; 9 Intelligently; 10 Thrusts; 11 Train; 12 Civil; 14 Grass; 18 Brace; 19 Refugee; 21 Unintentional; 22 Dental; 23 Street.  
Down: 1 Idiots; 2 Determination; 3 Calls; 5 Shelter; 6 Intransigence; 7 Trying; 8 Kiosk; 13 Inertia; 15 Abound; 16 Wrong; 17 Pellet; 20 Faint.

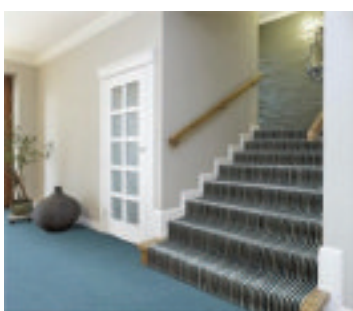
#### CRYPTIC SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Squeal; 4 Repair; 9 Independently; 10 Correct; 11 There; 12 Satin; 14 Ideal; 18 Large; 19 Harvest; 21 Qualification; 22 Eleven; 23 Cheers.  
Down: 1 Stitch; 2 Undercarriage; 3 Ample; 5 Elected; 6 At the same time; 7 Rhymes; 8 Units; 13 Itemise; 15 Plaque; 16 Sheikh; 17 Stones; 20 Reach.

■ We welcome letters and e-mails on all subjects. Please keep them to fewer than 250 words and include your full name, address and daytime telephone number, wherever possible, for verification. Anonymous letters will not be accepted for publication. Contributions may be edited for reasons of space. The opinions expressed on this page are not necessarily those of this newspaper. Write to: Letters To The Editor, Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AH or e-mail us at: [letters@yellowad.co.uk](mailto:letters@yellowad.co.uk)

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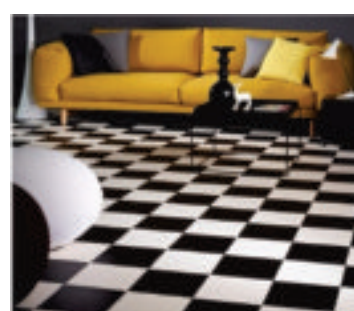
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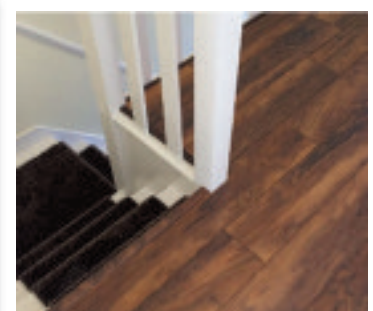
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**Astoria departs Tilbury:  
Tuesday 18th April 2017, 8 nights**

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Twin Inner from	Full Fare	Saver Fare	Twin Ocean View from	Full Fare	Saver Fare
	£1119	£659		£1559	£919

### Amsterdam & Antwerp Weekend



**Magellan departs Tilbury:  
Friday 5th May 2017, 3 nights**

Tilbury - Amsterdam (Netherlands) - Antwerp (Belgium) - Tilbury.

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### Medieval Cities & River Seine



**Magellan departs Tilbury:  
Sunday 28th May 2017, 5 nights**

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### Spain, Portugal & France



**Columbus departs Tilbury:  
Monday 2nd October 2017, 12 nights**

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Twin Inner from	Full Fare	Saver Fare	Twin Ocean View from	Full Fare	Saver Fare
	£1559	£919		£1979	£1159

### Canary Islands & Madeira



**Columbus departs Tilbury:  
Saturday 14th October 2017, 15 nights**

Tilbury - Amsterdam (Netherlands) - Gibraltar - Las Palmas (Gran Canaria) - Arrecife (Lanzarote) - Santa Cruz (Tenerife) - Funchal (Madeira) - Lisbon (Portugal) - Tilbury.

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GREAT OFFICER: Insp Mark Estall

## Police honour late inspector

ESSEX Police has paid tribute to one of its officers who died after falling ill while on duty last week.

Insp Mark Estall, who worked for the Force Support Unit, was on duty at the force's operational base in Boreham on Thursday, January 5, when he was taken ill.

A spokesman said: "Despite the best efforts of colleagues and the ambulance personnel who attended, he sadly died."

Mr Estall, 45, had been with Essex Police for nearly 27 years. Chief Supt Rachel Nolan, head of the Boreham operational base, said: "Essex Police has lost one of our great officers. Always professional, invariably cheery and a highly skilled member of the force."

"Our thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues at this difficult time."

The force flew its flags at half-mast on Friday in tribute to the late inspector.

# Leigh's main post office under threat of closure

LEIGH post office has been named as one of a number of branches across the country that could be at risk of closure.

The Post Office announced on Tuesday, January 10, that Leigh's main branch in Rectory Grove was one of 37 that it was looking to source a franchise partner for.

Roger Gale, The Post Office's sales and trade marketing director, confirmed that it will be keeping affected staff "fully informed" as it develops the plans.

He said: "We're committed to maintaining the Post Office's special place on the high street and the

changes we are making underpin our continued commitment to give communities in every part of the country access to essential services.

"The Post Office's network of more than 11,600 branches is easily the largest in the UK, with 17 million customer visits a week. The vast majority of these branches are run with partners, and in the locations announced today, we believe this will also be a more sustainable approach for the long term."

"With consumer habits changing, and the high cost of maintaining premises in prime high street locations, franchising helps us to keep services

where our customers want and need them.

"We will take time to identify the right partners over the coming months and all proposals will be subject to local consultation."

Andy Furey, Communication Workers Union national officer, said: "The announced franchising of Leigh-On-Sea Crown Post Office represents a major loss to the local community."

"Like many Crown Offices up and down the country, they provide a vital public service for the local community and it is part of the fabric of our society. The loss of this service would be detrimental to the area."

## Planners slate Castle Point's 'New Local Plan'

A GOVERNMENT planning inspector has recommended that Castle Point Council's 'New Local Plan' is not adopted.

David Smith confirmed his conclusions in a letter to the council's head of regeneration and neighbourhoods, Steve Rogers, which was published on January 5.

In the letter, Mr Smith resolved that the council had not complied with the duty to cooperate with other local councils, including Southend, concerning the New Local Plan.

Preparations regarding the plan began in 2011, and a draft version was published in 2014 before the final plan was submitted in March 2016.

A hearing took place last month to assess whether Castle Point Council complied with the 'duty to cooperate' concerning the plan.

Government guidelines state that the duty to cooperate places a legal duty on local planning authorities to "engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of Local and Marine Plan preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters".

Mr Smith concluded that while engagement in the preparation of the New Local Plan can be said to have been active and ongoing in general, it was "sometimes difficult" to see how the work undertaken fed into and influenced its preparation.

Mr Smith writes that the New Local Plan is based on an objectively assessed need for housing of 400 dwellings per year.

The draft plan set the target of providing 200 dwellings per year, which was then reduced to 100 after a failure of the Task and Finish Group to reach agreement on the release of green belt land for housing in November 2015.

Mr Smith said in the letter that "there is simply nothing in the New Local Plan to indicate how the unmet housing need will be tackled".

He added that Castle Point Council did not hold formal meetings with other authorities to discuss the level of housing proposed in the plan.

He also wrote that there was no evi-

dence that the decision to halve the housing target from the draft to the final plan took account of the implications for provision elsewhere.

Mr Smith said: "All the indications are that in this respect the council decided to 'plough its own furrow'."

"Failing to address the wider impact of its 'last minute' decision to lower the housing target by a considerable amount is the very opposite of cooperation in plan preparation. It did not pay sufficient attention to its obligations under the duty."

"This is exacerbated by the knowledge that its neighbours are affected by similar constraints and may find it difficult to meet their own objectively assessed needs."

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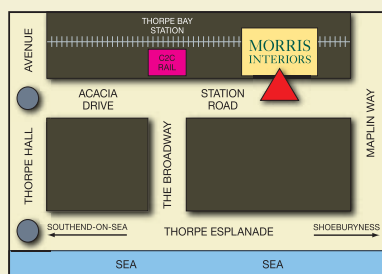
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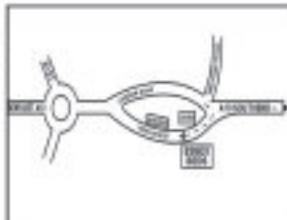
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# LIFESTYLE



HUNGRY EYES: Lewis Griffiths with Katie Harland and right, with Carlie Milner  
Photos: Alastair Muir



## LEWIS IS HAVING TIME OF HIS LIFE

By Liz Wade

features@yellowad.co.uk

WEST END star Lewis Griffiths is appearing in the worldwide phenomenon, *Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage*, at the Cliffs Pavilion, a venue he is familiar with having previously worked in its bar.

It was one of a number of part-time jobs Lewis has taken over the past 12 years to help pay the bills between touring with various productions.

"I worked behind the bar to subsidise an income auditioning and training. I would audition for companies and then join their production on tour," says Lewis.

The 31-year-old, who returns home as much as possible when he is not touring or in London shows, said: "I was born in Rochford and originally from

Benfleet, but I was born and raised in Southend really.

"I went to primary school in Benfleet as well as King John Secondary School in Thundersley.

"I am Southend born and bred. I would socialise in Southend and am a lifelong Blues fan, taking after my grandad."

Lewis first appeared at the Cliffs Pavilion in *Eurobeat*, a comedy Eurovision musical, then *Legally Blonde*, and took to its stage again in *Jersey Boys* in February 2015.

*Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage*, opened at Cliffs Pavilion on January 11 and runs until Saturday, January 21.

Exploding with heart-pounding music, breathtaking emotion and sensational dancing, this stage show has been seen by millions across the globe.

It tells the story of Frances

"Baby" Houseman and Johnny Castle, played by Lewis, who are independent young spirits from different worlds, who come together in what will be the most challenging and triumphant summer of their lives.

It is 1963, and 17-year-old Baby (Katie Hartland) is about to learn some lessons in life as well as a thing or two about dancing. On holiday in New York's Catskill Mountains with her older sister and parents, she shows little interest in resort activities, and discovers her own entertainment when she stumbles across an all-night dance party at the staff quarters.

Mesmerised by the moves and rhythms, Baby cannot wait to be part of the scene, especially when she catches sight of dance instructor Johnny Castle.

Her life is about to change forever as she is thrown in at the deep

end as Johnny's leading lady both on-stage and off.

Lewis, who trained at The London Studio Centre, has been in a range of UK tours including *Jersey Boys*, *Ghost – The Musical*, *Legally Blonde – The Musical*, *Don't Stop Believin'*, *Buddy*, *Eurobeat – Almost Eurovision*, and *Love Shack*. He has also appeared in the West End in *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Rent – Remixed*, *Fame* and *Whistle Down The Wind*, and in films *The Graduation* and *Deal*.

Katie, who trained at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, has appeared in *The Music Man* at Chichester Festival Theatre, *The Pacifist Guide to the War on Cancer* at the National Theatre, and on TV in Disney's *The Evermoor Chronicles*.

Since its Australian debut in 2004, the show has become a

worldwide phenomenon consistently breaking box office records.

Many favourite original songs feature in this stage sensation blending the movie soundtrack with performances by the cast.

Some of the tracks include *Cry To Me* by Solomon Burke and Otis Redding's first solo record, *These Arms of Mine*.

Other artists featured include Gene Chandler, The Chantels, The Drifters, Marvin Gaye, Lesley Gore, and The Surfaris. Among the 35 hits featured in the show, get your feet tapping to Bruce Channel's *Hey! Baby*, as well as *Hungry Eyes*, *Do You Love Me?* and *(I've Had) The Time Of My Life*.

■ *Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage* has an age recommendation of 12 and over, visit [southendtheatres.org.uk](http://southendtheatres.org.uk) or call the box office on 01702 351135.

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# Land full of Oscar credentials

LA LA LAND (12A, 128mins)

**T**HE frenzied expectation surrounding writer-director Damien Chazelle's musical love story was deafening before *La La Land* won a record seven Golden Globe awards this week.

His impeccably crafted follow-up to *Whiplash* is now installed as the front-runner for Oscars glory and already has one trembling hand on the coveted golden statuettes for best picture and best director.

The feverish hype is fully justified.

*La La Land* is a visually sumptuous, unabashedly swooning valentine to the golden age of Hollywood musicals, artfully constructed on a foundation of distinctly modern sensibilities.

Yes, characters burst into catchy songs composed by Justin Hurwitz, with snappy lyrics by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, to express their churning emotions, while their bodies tap, pirouette, twist and jive to Mandy Moore's expressive choreography.

But there is so much more to Chazelle's story of boy meets girl than doe-eyed glances and pat sentiment, including a heart-wrenching second act that affirms the need for everyone to chase their dreams, but also acknowledges the acrid pill we must swallow when reality bites, down to the bone.

Aspiring actress Mia (Emma Stone) works as a barista in between auditions, which repeatedly end in crushing rejection.

On a traffic-jammed Los Angeles freeway, she crosses paths with talented pianist Sebastian (Ryan Gosling), who reveres jazz in its purest form, but is forced to play saccharine standards by restaurant owner Bill (JK Simmons).



DYNAMIC DUO: Ryan Gosling as Sebastian and Emma Stone as Mia

PA Photo/Lionsgate

"I hate jazz," Mia tells Sebastian after they meet at a party in the Hollywood hills, where they share dreams for the future beneath the twinkling stars of the Californian night sky.

Sebastian is convinced he can spearhead a new appreciation for music until old classmate Keith (John Legend) questions his devotion to masters of a bygone era.

"You're holding on to the past," laments Keith, "but jazz is about the future."

While Mia prepares to stage her semi-autobiographical one-woman show *So Long*, Boulder City, Sebastian agrees to

play keyboard in Keith's soulless, chart-friendly band *The Messengers*.

Frustrations between the couple come to a head in a fractious to and fro about artistic integrity.

"Since when do you care so much about being liked?" snarls Mia. "You're an actress," Sebastian angrily reminds her, introducing pot to black kettle.

*La La Land* is a perfect marriage of directorial brio, tour-de-force performance and jaw-dropping production design.

Gosling and Stone are individually luminous and electrifying as a double act in

high-energy song and dance sequences.

Both are gifted emotionally wrought solos – *City Of Stars* and *Audition* (*The Fools Who Dream*) respectively – that galvanise Sebastian and Mia's perilously fragile romance.

Chazelle's film is a bitter and sweet confection in equal doses, laced with dry wit and an appreciation for the tug-of-war between love and career advancement that necessitates painful self-sacrifices for either side to triumph.

Released: January 13  
RATING: 10/10



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Mobile: 07788 196 737

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## WHAT'S ON

To have your event considered for publication, send the details AT LEAST 10 DAYS before the issue date to: **What's On, Yellow Advertiser, Acorn House, Great Oaks, Basildon, SS14 1AH. You can e-mail us at: [letters@yellowad.co.uk](mailto:letters@yellowad.co.uk) PLEASE NOTE: We cannot guarantee that all entries will be included. However, you can add the details of your event to our website at [www.yellowad.co.uk](http://www.yellowad.co.uk)**

### Friday, January 13

- Ron Spack's Dinner Jazz Duo – San Fairie Ann, Alexander Street, Southend, 8.15pm. Details 01702 348088.
- Scottish Country Dancing – St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Westcliff, 7.30pm. No need to bring a partner all you need is soft shoes. Details: 01702 587808.
- Counselling Service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, [enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk).
- Overeaters Anonymous Basildon Group – Nevenden Community Hall, St Peter's Church, Church Lane, Basildon, SS13 1BZ, 8pm, Colin, 07446 080054.
- George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, beginners tai chi: 10am to noon, darts: 2-4pm, marquetry: 10 to noon, art: 12.30-2.30pm. Snooker and bingo, £2, 01268 465854.
- Sequence Dancing – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, 2.15-3.15pm, 01268 465854.
- Book Club – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for the over-50s, 10-11am, 01268 465854.
- Drama Classes – Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, The Stables, Chalkwell Park Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, not a stage school, designed to increase children's life skills, to enrol call Dina 01245 328680.
- Table Tennis – Laindon Community Centre, Aston Road, off High Street, for over-50s, 11am-1pm, 07931 564105.
- Table Tennis – St Andrew's Church Hall, Church Road, Shoeburyness, 2-4pm, 01702 343462.

### Saturday, January 14

- Saturday Club – for people with special needs, 9am to noon, games, music, arts, crafts. Ages 14 upwards, Frypa Hall, The Fryth, Basildon. 01268 415409.
- Counselling service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, [enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk).
- Yugioh Club – play and trade yugioh, 120 Southend Road, St Catherine's Church Hall, Wickford, SS11 8EB, mini-tournaments, 1.30-4.20pm, 07965 671289.
- Darts and Kids Club – The Megacentre, Rayleigh, 10.30am-1.30pm, free entry for ages five to 17 with their fathers and father figures. 01268 779100.
- Saturday Morning Club – St Michael's Church Hall, Leigh Road, 10am to noon, free entry, 01702 437863.
- Brush Strokes Art Group – Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh-on-Sea, 9.15am-12.15pm, 01277 627043.
- Different Strokes Exercise Class – St Peter's Church Hall, Eastbourne Grove, Southend, for stroke victims, 2.30pm. 01702 612509.
- Jazz Workshop – Southend Jazz Co-op, Hadleigh old fire station, Hadleigh, 10am-1pm, £5 per session (concessions).

Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, [enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk).

- Sunday School – The Ark, Hadleigh Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, SS7 2PQ, 11am to noon, ages three to 10. Call 07585 601815 or 07967 913344.
- Quaker Meeting for silent worship and meditation – Quaker Meeting House, Dundonald Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, 10.30-11.30am, followed by conversation.
- King's Church, Southend – Blenheim School, off Blenheim Chase, Leigh, 10.30am to noon, 01702 523639.
- Greek Community of Southend & District, Church of St Barbara, St Phanourios and St Paul's, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff, 10am to noon. 01702 466435.
- Sunday Club – TGH Evangelical Church, Kiln Road, Thundersley, (ages three to 12), 10.45-11.45am, no charge, details 01702 554904.
- Mojo Friendship Club – Travellers' Joy, Downhall Road, Rayleigh, details Mo 07757 586799.

### Sunday, January 15

- Sunday School – The Ark, Hadleigh Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, SS7 2PQ, 11am to noon, ages three to 10. Call 07585 601815 or 07967 913344.
- Quaker Meeting for silent worship and meditation – Quaker Meeting House, Dundonald Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, 10.30-11.30am, followed by conversation.
- King's Church, Southend – Blenheim School, off Blenheim Chase, Leigh, 10.30am to noon, 01702 523639.
- Greek Community of Southend & District, Church of St Barbara, St Phanourios and St Paul's, Salisbury Avenue, Westcliff, 10am to noon. 01702 466435.
- Sunday Club – TGH Evangelical Church, Kiln Road, Thundersley, (ages three to 12), 10.45-11.45am, no charge, details 01702 554904.
- Mojo Friendship Club – Travellers' Joy, Downhall Road, Rayleigh, details Mo 07757 586799.

### Monday, January 16

- Bowls – FS&S Club, Gardeners Close, Basildon. All-weather green, free coaching, details call Chris 01268 419831.
- Green bowls – Mospies Park, Vange, details 01268 558756.
- Games Club – St Clement's Church, The Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea. Scrabble, chess, rummikub, backgammon and lots more. 2pm-4pm. Tel 07884 148148.
- Ron Spack's Jazztet – Brian Giles, trumpet, Alex Boyle keyboards, Rayleigh

Road, Eastwood. 8.30pm. 01702 512819.

- Coffee Morning and sale of goods – Christ Church, Wickford, 9am to noon.
- Club 50+ – 1B Queens Road, Southend, 9.30am-3.30pm, daily, £2 day pass, details 01702 346863.
- Sunshine Coffee Morning – for parents in Craylands and Felmores area. Briscoe Community Centre, 9-11am, free workshop, coffee and creche. Call Dawn 07880 035968, or just turn up.
- Dance Class – usually six-week course, ballroom, Latin American, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. Info: 01702 546219/542349.
- Leigh Scrabble Club – 7-10pm. Wesley Hall, Leigh Broadway, Leigh-on-Sea. Turn up or call 01268 727915.
- George Hurd Centre, Basildon, for the over-50s. Craft: 10am to noon, tai chi: 12.30-2.30pm, choir: 2.30-4pm, indoor bowls: 2-4pm. £2, 01268 465854.
- Senior Citizens Club – Richmond Hall, Benfleet, 1.30-3.30pm.
- Counselling Service – Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call anytime and we will get back to you, 01702 524346, [enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk).
- Over-50s Keep-fit Classes – Fryerns Community Centre, Pat 01268 770294.
- Over-50s session – Megacentre Rayleigh, 7 Brook Road, Badminton and table tennis 2-4pm. £4 inc equipment. 01268 773100.
- Activity Session for adults with special needs – 10am to noon. The Megacentre, Rayleigh, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, £1 per session, no charge for carers.
- Duplicate Bridge – Balmoral Bridge Club, Highlands Methodist Church, Olive Avenue, Leigh (opp Thames Drive), 1.15pm-4.30pm, call 01702 343611 or 01702 520993.
- Duplicate Bridge – Thorpe Bay Bridge Club, 62 Southchurch Boulevard, Southend, all standards, 2-4.45pm (no partner needed), 7.30-10.30pm, call Danny 07843 771774.
- Weekly Craft Workshop – St Peter's Church Hall, Thundersley, 6-8pm, Michelle 07790 582784.
- Basildon Players Amateur Dramatic Group – 8-10pm, James Hornsby High School, Leinster Road, Laindon, details Jeff 07913 426371, [join@basildonplayers.co.uk](mailto:join@basildonplayers.co.uk).
- Zumba – Pitsea Day Centre Over-50s, Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, 9.15-10am. 01268 465432.
- Beginners Computer Course – Pitsea Day Centre Over-50s, Northlands Pavement, Pitsea, 11am-1pm. 01268 465432.
- Short Mat Bowls Club in Hadleigh – welcomes new members, Canvey Short Mat Bowls Club, call Kevin 01268 792433.

- Short Mat Bowls, Thundersley, beginners welcome, details 01268 779174.
- Indoor Short Mat Bowls – Prittlewell Bowls Club, Priory Park, Southend, Ray 01268 777666.
- Indoor Bowls – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, Monday 2-4pm, 01268 465854.
- Whist – George Hurd Centre, Audley Way, Basildon, for over-50s, 10am to noon, details 01268 465854.
- Senior Citizens Club – Ghylgrove Centre, Butneys, 1.30-3.30pm, 01268 293995.
- Pensioners stall – York Road Outdoor Market, Southend, 8am-2pm.
- Evening of clairvoyance – 57 Point Road, Canvey, SS8 7TT, 3pm, £3 all profits to charity Tel: 07922 001433 or 01268 691922.
- Development Healing Circle – Face Salon, Burdett Avenue, Westcliff, understanding of spiritual healing and prayer, 8-9.30pm, 07879 004744.
- Fitness Walking – from Leigh Tennis Club, Highlands Boulevard, Leigh-on-Sea, 7.15-8.15pm, 01702 715509.
- Scrabble Club – Wesley Church Hall, Elm Road, Leigh Broadway, (opp police station), beginners welcome, no partner needed, 7-10pm, £3, call 01268 727915.
- Hadleigh Castle Townswomen's Guild – Appliance Hall, Old Fire Station, High Street SS7 2PA, 1.30-3.30pm. Visitors £2.50.
- IT help sessions – Billericay Library, 10.30am to noon. Details 01277 624624.

### Tuesday, January 17

- Computer help session – Billericay Library, 10.30am to noon. Free. 01277 624624.
- Counselling service – The Olive Tree Centre, 9am-9pm, call 01702 524346, [enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@olivecentre.org.uk).
- Yoga Class – Thorpedene Community Centre, Delaware Road, Shoeburyness, 7-8.30pm, £6, bring a blanket and yoga mat, ages 16-plus, 07961 314983.
- Table Tennis – 7.30-10.30pm, The Megacentre, 7 Brook Road, Rayleigh, £3.60 per session.
- Social Dance Class – ballroom, Latin American and sequence, 8.30-10.30pm, Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall. 01702 546219/542349.
- Weekly Craft Group – Oasis Coffee House, 189 Leigh Road, Leigh. 2.30-4pm. No charge. Emma 01702 471873.
- Social Dance – 1.45pm, St Cedd's Church, Bridgewater Drive, Westcliff. Ballroom, sequence, Latin, 01702 618771.
- Scrabble Club – Hockley Social Centre (rear of library), 6.30-10pm, first two visits free, 01702 205910.
- Evening of clairvoyance – St Cecilia's Christian Spiritualist Church, 9 Lord Roberts Ave, Leigh on Sea, 7.15pm, £2.50.

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Entertainment and tribute nights, which include a five-star buffet meal with 12 different dishes to choose from, as well as a papadum and pickle tray and starter served at your table, include vocalists Sarah O'Shea on Friday, January 27.

The evening costs £19.95 per person and anyone interested is urged to book early to avoid disappointment.

Other special events include Valentine's Day on Tuesday, February 14, and anyone interested in making a reservation, either for lunch or dinner, is urged to call as soon as

possible for further information.

Throughout the year diners are invited to party at the Blue Chutney thanks to its drinks promotion every Wednesday and Friday evenings.

Enjoy a starter, main course, side dish, rice or naan bread from the menu (king prawn extra £3.30) and as much drink as you want for one hour 45 minutes.

**You must book your table in advance to enjoy this offer**, which costs £21.95 per person on Wednesdays and £25.95 on Fridays.

Drinks include Cobra and Carling draught beer, wine by the glass, spirits – vodka, gin, whisky and brandy, as well as Baileys, Malibu, Archers and soft drinks (excludes wines by the bottle and champagne, terms and conditions apply).

Blue Chutney, which also offers a full takeaway service with free local delivery, is open Monday to Sunday from noon to 2pm, as well as from 5.30pm to 10.30pm from Monday to Thursday; 5.30pm to 11.30pm on Friday and Saturday; and from 5pm to 10.30pm on Sunday.

For further information about Blue Chutney, which is taking bookings for Valentine's Day, call 01268 763866, e-mail bluechutney@hotmail.com, or visit its website at www.blue-chutney.com.

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The above price is per head and includes a Buffet meal with 12 delicious dishes to choose from. Poppadom and starters served at your table.

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## Estate agency Stuart Thomas sponsors school bazaar which raises more than £3,000

ONCE again, Stuart Thomas, the estate agents at the Vic House Corner Roundabout on the A13 in Hadleigh, sponsored the Christmas bazaar held by Cedar Hall School in Hart Road, Thundersley.

You may have noticed the large number of pink boards and banners advertising the event throughout the area.

Cedar Hall School is a very friendly welcoming place. Stuart and his team are very proud to be able to support it.

Stuart and one of his team, Wendy Bailly, went to the bazaar on Saturday, December 10 and came away with some wonderful home-made cakes and gifts ideal for Christmas presents.

Cedar Hall School were delighted with the amount of people who attended the bazaar and are pleased to announce that in excess of £3,000 was raised in total.

Mr Maxwell, who is headteacher, invited Stuart to come along to the school assembly on Tuesday, December 13 to present his cheque to the school.

Keep your eyes open for more pink boards in the summer advertising the Cedar Hall School summer fete.



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## Leigh-on-Sea £475,000 SOLD

FIVE BEDROOMS - TWO Reception Rooms - Utility - EnSuite - Few MINUTES WALK TO BROADWAY & LEIGH STATION - Off-Street Parking for TWO VEHICLES - 50' REAR GARDEN



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## Leigh-on-Sea £130,000 SOLD

DELIGHTFUL! - Spacious DOUBLE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT - Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Sep WC, Study Area - Own Entrance & Hallway - Gas Rad Heating - Double Glazing - LONG LEASE - NO ONWARD CHAIN



## Leigh on Sea £145,000 SOLD

Lovely Studio Apartment - Lounge 12'5 x 12'1, Bedroom 8'6 x 7'9, Fitted Kitchen & Dble Glazing - LONG LEASE - Service charge includes all heating & water

## Ask The Agent...



In Each Issue you'll Discover Simple Tips to Help You Sell Your Home for More...

**"The Single Most Important Factor That Determines Whether You Achieve a Successful Sale..."**

Your initial marketing price, when your property first comes on to the market, is the single most important factor in determining whether or not you achieve a successful sale.

Contrary to popular belief, estate agents' windows, websites and newspaper ads are not a very reliable guide. These are asking prices - not actual selling prices which are the only ones that really matter.

Websites such as myhouseprice.com and ourproperty.co.uk can provide information on selling prices, but it's important to remember they get their data from HM Land Registry, so it's basically 3 months out of date - and in a changing market, that can make quite a difference.

In arriving at your initial marketing price, you need to consider a range of factors, such as recent sales of comparable properties, the location and condition of your home, the current demand and supply situation in your area, and projected market trends.

Don't be tempted to start out at a higher price just in case there's someone out there with more money than sense. You could very well spoil your best chance of getting a sale, because as a rule, properties attract the most buyer interest during their first weeks on the market. Thereafter, interest declines dramatically.

Obviously, you want to get the best possible price for what is probably your most valuable asset. But ask too much, and you will scare away potential buyers.

If you'd like help in determining an accurate initial marketing price for your property, please ask Roger or Michelle at RV Hall & Co on 01702 470044.

For more selling tips visit [www.rvhall.co.uk](http://www.rvhall.co.uk)

IN THE NEXT ISSUE... "I've found a property to buy, but which type of survey is best for me?"

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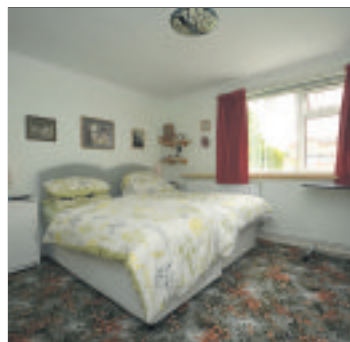
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**£210,000****WICK ESTATE**

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- No Onward Chain
- Ref:3557, EPC:D

**£500,000****THORPE BAY**

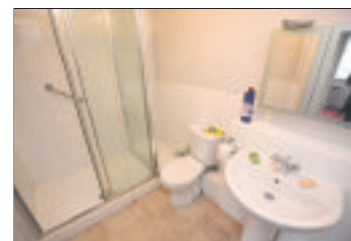
- 3 Bedrooms
- 3 Receptions
- Off Street Parking
- Garage
- Conservatory
- Ref:3602, EPC:D

**£349,995****SOUTHEND ON SEA**

- Needs refurbishment
- 3 Bedrooms
- Garage
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Ref:3601, EPC:TBA

**£310,000****SOUTHEND ON SEA**

- 4 Bedrooms
- Off Street Parking
- Garage
- En-Suite Shower
- Double Glazed
- Ref:3551, EPC:C

**£80,000****SOUTHCURCH ROAD**

- Retirement Flat
- No Onward Chain
- Sea Views
- Lift Access
- Warden Assisted
- Ref:3591, EPC:C



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## LEIGH ON SEA GUIDE PRICE £425,000-£450,000



- 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS ● EN SUITE TO MASTER
- IMMACULATE CONDITION ● EPC GRADE D

## RAYLEIGH £259,995



- 2 BEDROOMS ● QUITE MEWS LOCATION
- NO ONWARD CHAIN ● EPC GRADE D

## RAYLEIGH GUIDE PRICE £375,000



- 3 BEDROOM BYFORD BUILT ● CORNER PLOT
- SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION ● EPC GRADE D

## BENFLEET GUIDE PRICE £400,000-£425,000



- 3 BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW ● EN SUITE TO MASTER
- 100FT PLUS GARDEN ● EPC GRADE D

## HULLBRIDGE £339,995



- 3 BEDROOMS ● TWO RECEPTIONS ● CONSERVATORY
- LOVELY MODERN KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ● EPC GRADE D

## RAYLEIGH GUIDE £300,000-£315,000



- 3 BEDROOM HOME ● GF WC ● GARAGE & DRIVE
- 70FT APROX GARDEN ● EPC GRADE D

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## LEIGH-ON-SEA £300,000

This lovely bungalow must be viewed to be fully appreciated, situated in a very convenient location and with some great features including parking for three cars, garage, landscaped garden with detached brick built garden/ bar room, two good size bedrooms, spacious lounge, double glazed conservatory, 18'7 luxury kitchen/ breakfast room, bathroom/ w.c., gas c/h and double glazing. NO ONWARD CHAIN. Et15517



## 3/4 BEDROOM CHALET, WESTCLIFF £375,000

Refurbished three/ four bedroom chalet / bungalow situated in a sought after location on the Somerset Estate within walking distance of local shops, schools and high schools. All new fittings and floor coverings, cloaks/w.c. vast 22'7 x 22 open plan luxury kitchen / dining area and sitting area, spacious lounge ( could also be a 4th bedroom) Luxury bathroom, en suite shower room to bed 1, KEYS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING. Ref et15511



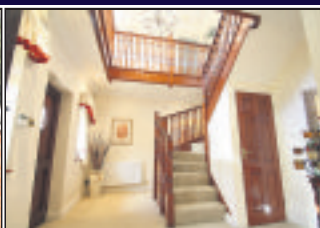
## FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE - LEIGH-ON-SEA £750,000

KEYS AVAILABLE TO VIEW This fabulous detached four bedroom house has been redeveloped to provide superb accommodation over three levels, 21'9 x 13'5 master bedroom with en suite shower, three further double bedrooms including a 26'8 x 13'7 bedroom on the top floor. Luxury 21'5 x 15' open plan kitchen/ dining area/ family room, and two further reception rooms. Outside there is a garage, landscaped garden and off street parking. HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER AND GREAT LOCATION, WALKING DISTANCE OF BROADWAY AND CHALKWELL STATION Ref et15479



## LUXURY DETACHED BUNGALOW, LEIGH-ON-SEA £429,995

A truly exceptional detached luxurious bungalow occupying a lovely south backing plot with a fabulous 90' south facing landscaped garden complete with summerhouse fitted with wood burner, The bungalow offers superb accommodation with a stunning 23' x 14'7 conservatory with heated floor, and elegant 18' x 12' lounge , a large luxury kitchen/ breakfast room, two double bedrooms, shower room, cloaks/w.c. and a beautiful spa bathroom. There is also an attic room and a garage plus extra parking. NO ONWARD CHAIN.



## CLOSE TO THUNDERSLEY GLEN £795,000

70' road frontage in a lovely location close to Thundersley Glen, King John School, SEEVIC College and Runnymede Leisure Centre, huge accommodation includes five reception rooms, four bedrooms , two ensuites, large luxury kitchen / breakfast room, utility room, cloaks /w.c., galleried landing, large secluded west backing gardens, double garage. This is a unique opportunity and early viewing is advised. Ref et15474

### WESTCLIFF ON SEA £487,500

We are privileged with instructions to offer for sale this luxury detached bungalow with an impressive 60' road frontage situated in a particularly sought after location. The current owners have spared no expense in creating an immaculate, beautiful home. 100' approx rear garden, garage and private driveway, superb 24'7 lounge, 18'4 x 11' luxury open plan kitchen and dining room, two double bedrooms, viewing essential. Ref et15512



## CHOICE OF PURPOSE BUILT FLATS FOR THE OVER 60' - PRICES FROM £120,000 TO £235,000

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## LEIGH-ON-SEA £549,995 oleo

A fully detached four bedroom family house situated in the Westleigh Schools catchment area on the Highlands Estate within walking distance of Leigh Station. Four bedrooms, en suite shower room to master bedroom, further luxury bathroom and separate w.c., large lounge with feature fireplace, elegant separate dining room, spacious luxury fitted kitchen, lovely 65' approx rear garden, garage and independent drive. Ref etl5471



### TWO BEDROOM FLAT, WESTCLIFF £185,000

With new fitted carpets and floor coverings this two bedroom first floor flat has its own rear garden, spacious lounge, large 12'8 x 12' kitchen/ diner, gas c/ h, double glazing, bathroom and separate w.c., walking distance of shops & Westcliff Station. NO ONWARD CHAIN - KEYS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING Ref etl5516



### NEW DETACHED HOUSES IN LEIGH-ON-SEA £725,000

Sought after location approx one mile to Station and Broadway. 4 double bedrooms, en suite shower room, luxury family bathroom and cloaks/w.c., large lounge, separate sitting room, separate study, stunning open plan kitchen/ family room/ dining area with complete integrated appliances, fitted utility room. PLANS AVAILABLE AT THIS OFFICE FOR INSPECTION. READY FOR OCCUPATION SPRING 2017. Ref etl5500



### LARGE REFURBISHED BUNGALOW, WESTCLIFF £269,996

Two double bedroom refurbished bungalow in convenient location, walking distance of shops, Southend Hospital and Prittlewell station. 35' x 70' approx rear garden, ALL NEW kitchen, bathroom, gas central heating, doors, fittings etc. Spacious lounge, 26' x 8' conservatory and utility area, 19'2 x 10'4 extensively fitted kitchen / diner with appliances, two double bedrooms - KEYS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING. Ref etl5520



## MARINE ESTATE, LEIGH £759,950

DETACHED 4 BED HOUSE Just refurbished WITH FANTASTIC ACCOMMODATION arranged over 3 floors, situated in a sought after location within the Westleigh schools catchment area and within walking distance of LEIGH STATION AND LEIGH BROADWAY. Large lounge, huge open plan kitchen/ family room / dining room with Bi-Fold doors, utility room, ground floor shower and cloakroom, luxury en suite's to two bedrooms and a luxury bathroom. Outside there is plenty of parking space and a large WEST FACING rear garden. Ref etl 5480



### GROUND FLOOR FLAT IN MONTAGUE COURT £169,995

Lovely spacious purpose built ground floor flat in Montague Court for the over 60's, direct access from the lounge to a private patio area, larger than average fitted kitchen with appliances, shower room/ w.c., excellent communal facilities including, elegant communal lounge, guest suite, laundry room, gardens and residents car park. NO ONWARD CHAIN.



### GROUND FLOOR FLAT, WESTCLIFF £169,995

Purpose built ground floor flat with GARAGE situated in a very impressive gated complex with lovely communal gardens. The property is located within easy reach of local shops, Chalkwell Park and Station. KEYS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING, Large lounge, spacious recently fitted kitchen, double bedroom, bathroom/ w.c. Ref etl5492



## MARINE ESTATE, LEIGH £599,995

A truly exceptional family house situated on the highly sought after Marine Estate within the Westleigh Schools catchment area and walking distance of Leigh Station. The bright and spacious extended accommodation includes a fabulous 28'3 x 13' open plan luxury kitchen/ family/ dining room, a large separate and elegant lounge, cloaks/w.c., utility room, three good size bedrooms and a large luxury bathroom. There is also an impressive garden with decking patio and parking for a number of cars. A QUICK SALE IS POSSIBLE AND EARLY VIEWING IS ADVISED.

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Broughton Road, HADLEIGH

£550,000



The Finishing Touches Are Being Applied To This Substantial New Build Family Home With Four Double Bedrooms Situated In This Popular & Convenient Location \ Ground Floor Cloakroom \ L-Shape Lounge/Family Area/Kitchen 29'9 x 22'9 plus door recess \ Master Bedroom 13'1 x 11'3 With En-Suite Shower Room \ Bedroom Two 11'8 x 9'8 \ Bedroom Three 11'10 plus door recess x 9'8 \ Bedroom Four 11'9 x 9'7 \ Three Piece Bathroom Suite \ Garage 18'9 x 11'3 \ Considerable Road Frontage \ West Backing Garden With Large Elevated Expanse Of Decking \ Popular Location Within Striking Distance To Hadleigh & Leigh-On-Sea Town Centres \ Walking Distance To Hadleigh Country Park, Castle & Cycle Track \ Call 01702 555888

Woodfield Road, HADLEIGH

£550,000



An Attractive Detached Home Offering Versatile Accommodation In Excellent Condition Throughout \ Lounge 16'11 x 14'3 max \ Family Room/Kitchen 21'2 x 14'9 \ Utility Room 10'5 x 5'2 \ Ground Floor Shower Room \ Ground Floor Bedroom Three 10'4 x 10'3 plus fitted wardrobe depth \ Ground Floor Bedroom Four/Study 9'6 x 7'5 plus recess \ Master Bedroom 19'5 x 14'11 max With Exposed Beams & Roof Trusses \ En-Suite 9'5 x 8'6 \ Bedroom Two 9'2 x 8'7 \ Landscaped 60ft Rear Garden \ Garage/Outbuilding 21'5 x 8'9 \ Landscaped Front Gardens \ Excellent Location For Both Leigh & Hadleigh Town Centres \ EPC Band C \ Call 01702 555888

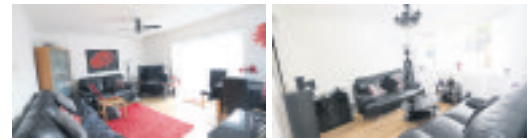


**EASTWOOD** / **£480,000**MUST BE  
SEEN INSIDE

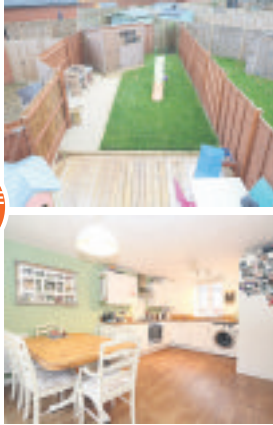
Four Bedroom Detached Family Home \ Stylishly Decorated In Contemporary Cottage Theme \ High Quality Kitchen \ Bright Open Plan Living Space With Wood Burning Stove \ Lounge Leading Onto Decking Area \ Gym \ Family Room \ En-Suite To Master Bedroom \ Double Glazed Windows \ Interesting Landscaped Garden \ Garage & Block Paved Driveway \ Short Walk To Local Shops & Schools \ EPC Grade C \ Call Rayleigh Office 01268 7452742 To View.

**Scrub Lane, HADLEIGH** / **£300,000**SOUTH FACING  
GARDEN

A Deceptively Large Bungalow On A Large Plot In This Desirable Location With A Superb South Facing Rear Garden, Detached Garage & Much More \ Lounge/Diner 22'9 x 13'0 max \ Kitchen/Breakfast Room 10'11 x 10'9 \ Sun Room 11'2 x 7'8 \ Bedroom One 13'10 into bay x 11'6 \ Bedroom Two 13'1 x 9'5 \ Three Piece Bathroom Suite \ South Facing 150ft Rear Garden \ Detached Garage 20'5 x 8'11 \ Off Street Parking \ Much Potential \ Walking Distance To Town Centre, Woodland Walls & Hadleigh Country Park \ EPC Band D \ Call 01702 555888

**BENFLEET** / **£325,000**NO ONWARD  
CHAIN

Three/Four Bedroom Semi Detached Chalet \ Front Lounge 12'2 x 10'4 \ Study 6'8 x 6'2 \ Rear Lounge 14'0 x 12'11 \ Ground Floor Bedroom 10'3 x 9'7 \ Kitchen 10'8 x 6'10 \ Bedroom One 18'1 max x 10'5 max \ Bedroom Two 16'5 max x 9'7 narrowing at end \ First Floor Shower Room \ Independent Driveway With Large 9ft Side Way Offering Off Street Parking For Numerous Vehicles \ Robert Drake School Catchment \ Easy Access Of Local Amenities \ Close To A13 & Transport Links \ No Onward Chain \ Sole Agents \ Viewing Advised \ EPC - D \ Call 01702 555888

**THUNDERSLEY** / **O.I.E.O. £350,000**DESIRABLE  
LOCATION

Immaculate Three Bedroom Semi Detached Family Home Situated In This Desirable Turning Within Easy Access Of Hadleigh Town Centre, Sevic College And King John School In Excess Of 1000' Square Foot \ Lounge 20'3 x 9'11 \ Ground Floor W.c \ Modern Kitchen/Diner 19'1 x 12'10 Max \ Bedroom One 10'11 x 10'2 With En-Suite Shower Room \ Bedroom Two 11'2 x 10'4 \ Bedroom Three 11'7 x 6'11 \ Landscaped Rear Garden \ Covered Off Street Parking \ Excellent Condition Throughout \ Quiet Yet Convenient Location \ Viewing Essential \ EPC - B \ Call 01702 555888

**DAWS HEATH** / **£440,000**SOUGHT  
AFTER  
LOCATION

Spacious Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow Situated In This Extremely Sought After Location \ Reception Hall 15'0 x 5'10 \ Lounge/Diner 24'7 x 12'5 > 9'1 \ Kitchen 11'8 x 8'10 \ Bedroom One 13'8 x 11'11 \ Bedroom Two 10'10 x 9'5 \ Bathroom 9'9 x 7'2 max \ 45ft South Backing Rear Garden \ Sought After Daws Heath Location \ Close To Belfairs Woods & Nature Walks \ Short Drive Of Town Centre & A127 Trunk Roads \ Rarely Available \ Double Glazed \ Gas Central Heating \ Viewings Advised \ EPC Band D \ Call 01702 555888

## Land required with or without planning.

**Beresford Gardens, HADLEIGH** / **£425,000**100ft GARDEN  
BACKING  
WOODLAND

Attractive Four Bedroom Character Family Home Situated In This Extremely Sought After Location Within Good School Catchments And A Short Walk From Hadleigh Town Centre \ Spacious Accommodation Throughout \ Lounge/Diner 22'6 x 11'11 \ Kitchen/Breakfast Room 19'8 x 10'11 \ Utility Room \ Ground Floor Shower Room \ Bedroom One 12' x 12' \ Bedroom Two 11'2 x 9'4 \ Bedroom Three 11'1 x 9'1 \ Bedroom Four 9'10 x 9'3 Plus Door Recess \ Modern Bathroom 10'7 x 6'3 \ Stunning Landscaped Rear Garden Measuring Approximately 100ft Backing Woodland \ Off Street Parking \ Popular Location \ Viewing Essential \ EPC Band E \ Call 01702 555888

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**Hockley** / **£365,000**



SHORT  
WALK TO  
STATION



We are happy to bring to market this spacious 3/4 bedroom semi-detached house within easy pedestrian access for Hockley Mainline Railway station. Benefiting from a full width conservatory, en-suite to master bedroom as well as downstairs cloakroom and separate dining room. Immediate viewing advised. Walk to Station \ En-Suite to Master Bedroom \ Downstairs Cloakroom plus First Floor Family Bathroom \ Garage and Off Street Parking \ Conservatory \ Greensward and Plumberow Catchment \ Walk to Hockley High Street \ Large Kitchen 18'8 x 7'8 \ Three Bedrooms and Three Reception Rooms. CALL 01702 207720 TO VIEW

**Hockley** / **£325,000**



Requiring some decoration internally is this competitively priced THREE BEDROOM semi detached bungalow found in a popular CUL DE SAC within a SHORT WALK TO HOCKLEY HIGH STREET and transport links as well as benefiting from a large CONSERVATORY AND DETACHED GARAGE. Keys held, offered with NO CHAIN. Detached Garage \ Off Street Parking \ Three Bedrooms \ Central Location \ 60' Rear Garden \ Some DIY Required \ Conservatory \ Scope For Extension STPP \ No Onward Chain \ CALL 01702 207720 TO VIEW

**Hockley** / **£640,000**



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Instruction!



Situated in one of Hockley's PREMIER LOCATIONS is this EXTENDED, four DOUBLE BEDROOM Detached house. Benefiting from a 110' REAR GARDEN as well as enormous ground floor accommodation including a massive FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS. Situated within a short walk to Hockley Woods, Tennis club and High Street Four Double Bedrooms \ En suite To Master \ Detached Garage \ Large Rear Garden \ Highly Sought After Location \ Kitchen Breakfast Room \ Playroom \ Family Room \ Lounge \ Study \ Ground Floor Cloakroom \ Off Street Parking \ Well Presented \ Viewing By Appointment Only on 01702 207720

**Hullbridge** / **£750,000**



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Instruction!



Situated in the popular, semi rural village of Hullbridge is this substantial and versatile, four bedroom, four reception room residence occupying a spacious plot situated directly next to open fields offering extensive, undisturbed farmland views. Offering more than ample space for dual occupation. Four Reception Rooms \ Four Bedrooms \ Impressive Landing - Possible Bedroom If Required \ Balcony With Breath Taking Views \ Extensive Off Street Parking \ Summer House \ Double Garage Plus Further Double Length Garage \ Kitchen Diner \ Utility Room \ En Suite And Dressing Room To Master \ CALL 01702 207720 TO VIEW

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Hadleigh

£800 pcm



TO LET



This Is A Two Bedroom First Floor Flat Within A Popular Hadleigh Development \ Lounge With Modern Kitchen 20'2 x 11'5 \ Master Bedroom With Fitted Wardrobes 14'5 x 10'11 \ Bedroom Two 11'5 x 7'5 \ Modern Luxury Four Piece Bathroom Suite \ Allocated Parking \ Visitor Parking \ Secure Entry Phone System \ Water Rates Included \ EPC Band C \ Available February \ Fees Apply \

Hadleigh

£1,050 pcm



TO LET



This Is A Two Bedroom Furnished Bungalow Close To Hadleigh Town Centre \ Lounge 12'1 x 11'3 \ Modern Fitted Kitchen 11'7 x 10'2 \ Master Bedroom 12'5 x 11'7 \ Bedroom Two 10'9 x 8'0 \ Modern Four Piece Bathroom Suite \ Rear Garden \ Garage \ Off Street Parking \ Fully Furnished \ EPC Band E \ Available Immediately \ Fees Apply \

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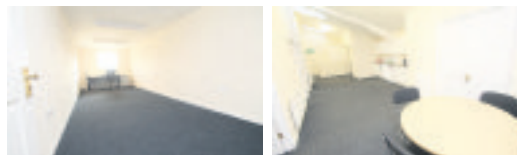
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BUSINESS SALE / HAIR SALON, ESSEX



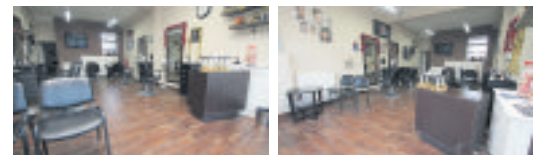
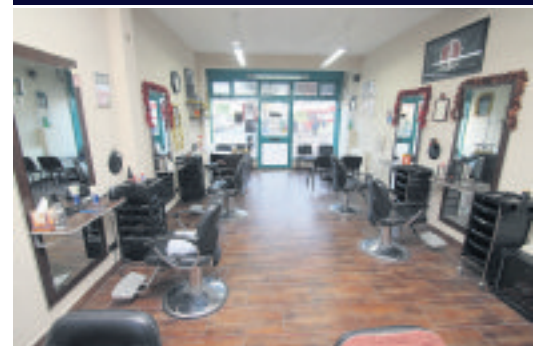
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### CLOSE TO HOSPITAL & GRAMMAR SCHOOLS!

GUIDE PRICE £550,000

This well presented 4 bedroom home has been recently decorated and has had newly fitted kitchen & bathroom suite. Double aspect lounge/diner. En suite shower to principal bedroom. Fully double glazed. Garage. Easy sized West backing garden. Offered with no onward chain.

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## WESTCLIFF ON SEA

GUIDE PRICE £279,995

### LOOKING FOR A QUICK SALE? THIS HOUSE HAS NO ONWARD CHAIN

Super presented family home which goes on forever! Great sitting/family/dining room which is open plan to the quality fitted kitchen. Lounge with fireplace. 3 Bedrooms. Fully tiled bathroom suite. West backing garden.

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GUIDE PRICE £250,000 - £275,000

### VACANT POSSESSION - NO ONWARD CHAIN

Looking for a property to put your stamp on? Then this is your chance. This 3 Bedroom family home is ideal and is located within a short stroll of Belfairs shops & Golf course. Has gas central heating & double glazing. 65' Garden - Ideal for the kids. KEYS HELD.

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FOR SALE



**£514,950 - OFFERS CONSIDERED**

**Hill Road, Benfleet**

We are pleased to be favoured with the instructions to offer to the market this spacious and well appointed four bedroom family home. The property comprises of a large luxury fitted kitchen, spacious open-plan lounge and family room, dining room, utility room, ground floor cloakroom, four bedrooms with en-suite and dressing room to master, family bathroom, garage and west facing garden - ideal for entertaining. The property is located within a sought after location close to schools and woodland.

FOR SALE



**£795,000**

**Hermitage Avenue, Thundersley**

BRADLEYS COUNTRYWIDE are delighted to offer to the market a unique opportunity to acquire this most desirable four bedroom detached family residence that occupies a prominent 70' road frontage in a highly favoured and sought after residential location within close proximity to the picturesque Glen woodland and within walking distance of the highly regarded King John School, Seevic college & Runnymede swimming and leisure facilities. This property must be viewed to truly appreciate the space on offer.

FOR SALE



**£295,000**

**Kingshawes, Thundersley**

We are pleased to bring to the market this spacious 3 bedroom family home set within a quiet turning in Thundersley. The property offers excellent size rooms throughout including a large lounge, separate dining room, kitchen with utility room and three good size bedrooms.

TO LET



**£925 PCM**

**Imperial Avenue, Chalkwell**

We are pleased to bring to the market this excellent sized, two bedroom ground floor apartment. The property is located close to schools, shops, parks and within walking distance of both Chalkwell & Westcliff-On-Sea mainline train stations. Keys held for viewings.



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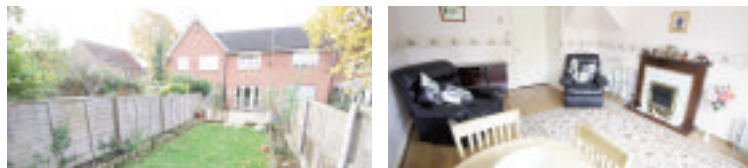
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- Cul De Sac Location
- Close to Village Shops & Schools
- Must Be Viewed Internally
- 30' Rear Garden



## RAYLEIGH £280,000

- 2 Bedrooms
- 16' Lounge/Diner
- Modern Kitchen
- Cloakroom
- Bathroom/Wc
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## RAYLEIGH £285,000

- 2 Bedrooms
- Spacious Lounge
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Bathroom/Wc
- Double Glazed
- Garage
- No Chain
- Popular Cul De Sac Location
- Close To Station & Shops
- Early Viewing Advised



## RAYLEIGH £405,000

- 3 Bedrooms
- Cloakroom
- 24'3 x 13'8 Lounge
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- Utility Room
- Bathroom/Wc
- Private 35' x 35' Garden
- Garage/Parking
- Popular Location
- Popular School Catchments

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12/14 Berry's Arcade, High Street, Rayleigh SS6 7EF  
Darren Emmett: darren@stgeorgehomes.co.uk



## Westcliff On Sea £495,000



Sorrell are delighted to offer for sale this spacious 2/3 bedrooomed ground floor apartment situated within a sought after block along the Leas. The property offers extensive and uninterrupted panoramic sea views from South facing balcony along with lounge and master bedroom. The property also benefits from attractive front and communal rear gardens along with detached double width garage. The property offers early vacant possession along with full double glazing and gas central heating.

## Southend On Sea OIEO £300,000



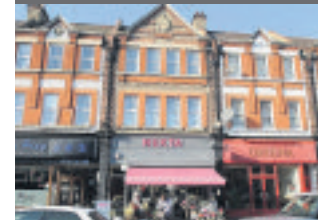
Sorrell are favoured with instructions to offer for sale this attractive semi detached bungalow being situated within a popular and quiet location of Southend close to Prittlewell Railway Station. The property has been sympathetically extended to comprise contemporary and spacious kitchen/diner and has the added advantage of two double bedrooms along with further reception room and attractive bathroom. Established 90' South backing rear garden and paved off street parking to front.

## Southend On Sea £675 pcm



Sorrell letting department are please to offer for rent this immaculate one bedrooomed retirement apartment for the over 60's being situated in a central location close to Southend town centre. The property offers a spacious lounge with a newly installed modern fitted kitchen including built in electric induction hob, upright electric oven and integrated fridge, newly installed shower room/wc with built in storage, large built in storage cupboard. Security entry phone, residents communal lounge and facilities. Allocated off street parking.

## Thorpe Bay £900 pcm



Fully self contained first and second floor maisonette situated above the florist in the Broadway, Thorpe Bay. Separate dining room, modern fitted kitchen with plumbing and recess for washing machine and refrigerator along with electric cooker point and gas point. Three bedrooms, two double bedrooms and one single bedroom, bathroom/wc with shower over the bath, full double glazing and gas central heating, off street parking to rear for two vehicles. NO SHARERS



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- MODERN KITCHEN
- SOUTH FACING GARDEN
- OFF STREET PARKING
- KING JOHN CATCHMENT

## AMAZING!

They are really amazing estate agents. 4 viewings in 24 hours, 2 offers and sold. Really pushed the sale through for us, start to finish will be 1 month! Nothing was too much trouble for them, always happy to help and the whole team so friendly. Would recommend to anyone!

Hannah

## THE BEST ESTATE AGENT WE HAVE EVER USED

We cannot thank Stuart and his team enough for all their help with our recent house move.

They kept us up-to-date on how things are progressing and any problems were quickly resolved. We would certainly recommend them to our family and friends and would have no hesitation in using them again for any property move. Paul & Julie



## HADLEIGH £315,000

- TWO BEDROOMS
- CONSERVATORY
- VERY POPULAR LOCATION
- WALKING DISTANCE SHOPS
- IMMACULATE CONDITION
- WEST BACKING GARDEN



## THUNDERSLEY £375,000

- CHARACTER HOME
- THREE BEDROOMS
- KING JOHN CATCHMENT
- LARGE WEST BACKING GARDEN
- RECENTLY REFURBISHED
- NO ONWARD CHAIN

## A STRESS FREE DAY

I have moved 4 times and each move was a highly stressful experience. With all kinds of things going wrong so I was delighted when this move with Stuart Thomas went like a well oiled machine.

What problems that did crop up were easily dealt with by Stuart and his staff. I can't praise them enough, well done all of you. John & Rita





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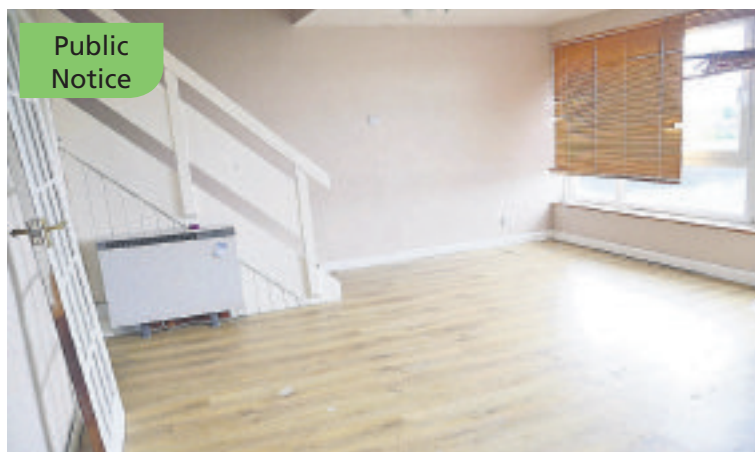
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Public Notice

### Manor Road, Benfleet £136,950

We are acting in the sale of the mentioned property and have received an offer of £138,500 on FLAT 9, MANOR COURT, BENFLEET, SS7 4HT. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before exchange of contracts takes place. FISKS ESTATE AGENTS, 146 LONDON ROAD, BENFLEET, SS7 5SQ



### The Rundles, Benfleet £305,000

Four Bedroom End Of Terrace | Extended | Ground Floor Shower Room | Utility Room | Four Double Bedrooms | No Onward Chain | Looks Out To Grassed Area | Garage | Private Parking | Backs On To Fields



### London Road, Benfleet £295,000

Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Property | Show Home Condition | Garage | Private Driveway | Separate Dining Area | Private Rear Garden | Double Glazed Throughout | Refitted Family Bathroom | Good Road Routes | Close To Local Center



### Seamore Close, Benfleet £290,000

Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Property | Extra Wide Garage | Small, Quiet Close | Brick Based Conservatory | Private Driveway | Double Glazed Throughout | Gas Radiators

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## 5 TOP TIPS TO HELP YOU MOVE WITH LESS STRESS



The moving process can be stressful, as everyone knows, but there are some simple steps you can take to make your move go with less stress.

**Kevin Shaw, national sales director at Leaders, says:** "It's rare for any move to be completely free of stress but there are certainly ways to make the process easier. By following our tips below you can make sure things go as smoothly as possible and avoid some common problems."

### ORGANISE YOUR FINANCES

Organising your finances as early as possible will put you in the best position to make your first step. It's important to understand all the costs involved and work out exactly how much you can afford before you start your property search.

If you need a mortgage, as most people do, getting yourself pre-approved - which means being qualified by a mortgage lender prior to starting the search for your new home - will help you get your move off to the best possible start. Not only does this enable you to find out for certain exactly how much you will be able to borrow so you can focus your property search accordingly, it also puts you in a stronger position once you've found a property you want to make an offer on. In today's competitive market this will help you secure the home you want.

Researching and applying for a mortgage can be exhausting on your own so our advice is to use a mortgage adviser who can help take the pain out of the process.

### SELL YOUR PROPERTY BEFORE TRYING TO BUY YOUR NEXT HOME

In most circumstances it is best to put your property on the market before you start looking for your next home. Not only will this help you organise your finances but it means you'll be taken more seriously by both estate agents and sellers. Plus, getting interest in your property, and possibly even offers, before you start searching for your next home will put you in a great position to make a serious offer.

### GET A SURVEY AND A CONVEYANCING SPECIALIST

In order to protect your future outgoings and avoid any unnecessary delays, costs and frustrations, it is vital you get a survey of the property you are buying. Make sure the surveyors you choose are professional and qualified.

You will also need a conveyancing specialist to organise the legal process of transferring your property from one person to another.

### RESPOND PROMPTLY TO ENQUIRIES DURING THE SALES PROCESS

The quicker the process of selling and buying a home, the less stressful the experience tends to be. Depending how many other parties are involved, this can take some time but you can help by being quick to respond to any queries and provide necessary documentation. Your estate agent should also be proactive and keep you fully informed throughout the process so that any potential problems or delays can be swiftly dealt with.

### CHOOSE AN ESTATE AGENT WHO WILL HELP YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

The estate agent you use can make all the difference to your moving experience. Choose an experienced local firm that knows the area well and is passionate about helping you achieve your aims. Check out their reputation, their marketing techniques, and their professionalism by meeting them face-to-face, asking lots of questions and seeking recommendations from other clients.

Ultimately, you need to make sure you choose an agent you can trust to look after your best interests throughout the process.

For advice you can trust on all aspects of buying, selling, letting or renting, contact your local Leaders branch today - leaders.co.uk

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# Agent Directory

## Auctions Speak Louder Than Words

Following a highly successful 2016, Auction House Essex has released its auction calendar for 2017. It boasts more auctions in more locations than any other Essex based land and property auctioneer.

The recent success of their new Colchester branch has fuelled this drive to offer more opportunities to sell for the clients of Auction House Essex. With 14 auctions already scheduled for 2017 it is looking to be the company's busiest year to date.

The popularity of sale by auction is continuing to increase due to the speed and certainty of sale offered through this route to market. Property vendors are increasingly keen to cut out the lengthy process of sale by private treaty with conveyance taking roughly 4 months. When selling by auction the transfer will take place within 28 days of the sale.

Speed and certainty of sale aren't the only benefits of auction sale either, auctioneers will often sell a property above market value. This is because the auctioneers will gather all interested parties in one room and see who is willing to pay the most for the property being offered, this offers a stark contrast to the service provided by estate agents who list the property and wait for the first acceptable offer to come along.

Auctions have become an easier path for purchasers too, particularly for people looking to buy property with room for improvement. Owner occupiers are also visiting auction halls more frequently, including first time buyers and families who,

with the assistance of the auctioneers, can now obtain speedy mortgage offers and be in a position to bid.

Auction House Essex even have insurance and independent mortgage brokers in attendance at the auctions to offer advice to any prospective purchasers.

With all these factors combined, Auction House Essex are offering numerous and diverse properties to a wide demographic of purchasers. If you are looking to sell quickly and still achieve a good sale price for your property then please don't hesitate to give the team at Auction House Essex a call on 01702 33 33 99 to arrange a totally free, no obligation auction appraisal. If you are looking to invest in some property, then please browse through the available stock at [www.AuctionHouseEssex.co.uk](http://www.AuctionHouseEssex.co.uk) and get in contact if you require any further information.



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## VW Golf GTI stays hot for 2017

By Chris Russon

IT was the year the Volkswagen Golf GTI snatched back its crown as the "king of the ring" and it was the year that the iconic hatch notched up 40 years of satisfying the cravings of motoring enthusiasts around the world.

The car that set the new standard at the legendary Nurburgring was the ultra-hot Golf GTI Clubsport S – the most potent version of the famous Gran Turismo Injection model so far – which completed the "green hell" of the 12.93 mile Nordschleife circuit in seven minutes 47.19 seconds – more than three seconds quicker than the previous record for a front-wheel drive car set by a Honda Civic Type R.

And for fans of the car which created the hot hatch niche back in the 1970s it was enough to see the Clubsport S sell out even before VW announced it would cost £33,955 to get hold of one of the 150 models destined for Britain.

With 310ps coming from its 2.0-litre turbo engine the Golf GTI Clubsport S has a top speed of 164mph and a 0 to 60 time of 5.8 seconds – performance which puts the 9.2 seconds acceleration time of the 1976 original firmly in perspective.

VW followed that with another limited run of 1,000 GTI Clubsport Edition 40 models

HOT HATCH: VW Golf GTI Clubsport S



which although slightly less powerful at 265ps and priced from £30,875 proved another sell out – its bespoke GTI trimmings including a numbered plaque marking it out as a future classic.

The anniversary GTI gathering at Worthersee in Austria attracted tens of thousands of fans with all seven generations of the Golf making an appearance celebrating the 40 years of production in

which more than two million models have been sold.

An updated Golf – including the GTI – is to be released early in 2017 followed by an all-new model in 2018.

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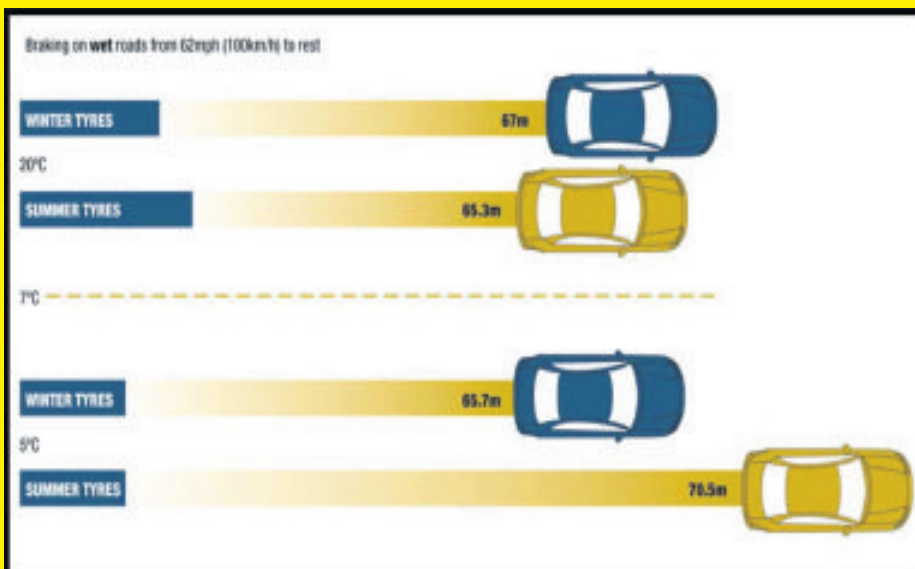
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# SHARP BLADES END BLUES RUN

## Football

**Southend United 2  
Sheffield United 4**

**Brian Jeeves reporting from  
Roots Hall Stadium**

SOUTHEND United's 13-game unbeaten Sky Bet League One run was brought to an end on Saturday by classy Sheffield United, although the final outcome was somewhat harsh on the home side who performed admirably in an absorbing clash.

Manager Phil Brown made one change from the side that drew a blank against Swindon last time out with Nile Ranger coming in for Jermaine McGlashan, forming a three-pronged attack with Simon Cox and Marc-Antoine Fortune.

Meanwhile, Sheffield United arrived in south-east Essex top of the table having recorded victories in each of their last five outings.

Confidence was high among the Blades support, with more than 1,800 fans making the long trip south to back their team. And it was the visitors who almost grabbed an early advantage. Billy Sharp firing wide after finding room behind the Blues backline.

Sheffield settled the better and with their next meaningful foray forward they grabbed the lead.

Defender Ethan Ebanks-Landell neatly nodded beyond Blues goalkeeper Ted Smith after Mark Duffy picked him out from the left.

Michael Timlin's angled drive was deflected behind as the Blues looked for a quick response.

Meanwhile, Kieron Freeman passed up a glorious opportunity to double the visitors' lead, prodding wide with only Smith to beat.

But the home side's toil paid off. Cox found himself in acres of space just inside the Blades box and

**MILES OFF: Ryan Leonard**  
Photo by Martin Dalton



turned to drive a crisp shot past Simon Moore in the visitors' goal.

Soon after, Blues almost snatched the advantage as Moore was twice called upon to rebuff efforts from Anthony Wordsworth and Cox.

Blues were enjoying their best spell of the match. Will Atkinson forced Moore into another smart save after displaying sublime trickery, while another attempt from Wordsworth was blocked as Blues continued to probe menacingly.

Smith had to race from his goal to thwart the marauding Sharp as the Blades searched for an opening.

Then, just before the break United regained their advantage.

Duffy's inswinging free-kick eluded the Blues rearguard and Jack O'Connell was on hand to guide past Smith.

Blues started the second period brightly with Jason Demetriou and Fortune causing the Blades prob-

lems from out wide, while Moore fisted away under heavy pressure from Wordsworth. Duffy provided the Blades with an opportunity, but his strike was too high to trouble Blues stopper Smith.

But with just under 20 minutes remaining Sheffield put the contest beyond reasonable doubt. Caolan Lavery thumped home from close range after his initial attempt had been blocked.

Blues were wobbling, and four minutes later United added a fourth. Freedman wriggled clear before planting high past Smith.

Undoubtedly, the Blades deserved to be ahead, but the margin was harsh on the home side who had battled gamely throughout.

Substitute McGlashan, displayed persistence to grab a late consolation after the Blues wideman had beaten off the attentions of Ebanks-Landell and Freedman.

Then deep into stoppage time, Cox

hit the bar with a thundering drive from distance as the home side refused to throw in the towel.

Speaking after the match, Brown said: "One team turned up and the other team didn't, which is a surprise and a disappointment."

"We changed the system slightly to incorporate what they were playing. Maybe I was looking at them too much. I can't legislate for the goals – that's nothing to do with the system."

He continued: "They are a good side, there's no doubt about it. I take my hat off to them. I'm disappointed in the way they reacted to certain things. But they were probably smarting from the fact that we beat them by three at their place."

Midfielder Ryan Leonard said: "Obviously, we were coming up against the team at the top of the league who are flying at the moment."

"We didn't start great, but we got into the game in the first half. We got the goal and were the better team for a while. Then in the second half, we were miles off it really."

Southend United are next in Sky Bet League One action on Saturday, January 14 when Rochdale visit Roots Hall (3pm).

**Southend United:** Ted Smith, Anthony Wordsworth, Adam Thompson, Michael Timlin, Simon Cox, Will Atkinson (Zavon Hines 73'), Marc-Antoine Fortune (Jermaine McGlashan 60'), Ryan Leonard, Jason Demetriou, Anton Ferdinand (Capt), Nile Ranger Subs not used: John White, Luke O'Neill, Jack Bridge, Harry Kyprianos, Josh Bexon.

**Sheffield United:** Simon Moore, John Fleck, Jack O'Connell, Chris Basham, Caolan Lavery, Billy Sharp (Capt), Paul Coutts, Kieron Freeman, Ethan Ebanks-Landell, Mark Duffy (Samir Carruthers 68') (Stefan Scougall 83'), Daniel Lafferty (Matt Done 56') Subs not used: Marc McNulty, Aaron Ramsdale, Jake Wright, Leon Clarke

**Referee:** Andy Davies  
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**Attendance:** 7,702

# Hammers take five in FA Cup drubbing

**West Ham United 0 Man City 5**  
**Brian Jeeves reporting from the London Stadium**

SHELL-SHOCKED West Ham saw their participation in the Emirates FA Cup come to an emphatic end as City handed them a hammering in a disappointing third round tie for the east London side.

Manager Slaven Bilic shuffled the pack with Adrian preferred as "cup keeper" while Andy Carroll returned to the starting line-up and Dimitri Payet dropped to the bench.

It was clear that City boss Pep Guardiola is taking the competition seriously with the likes of Aguero, Sterling, De Bruyne and Silva on the team sheet.

It was a bright opening. Hammers' Algerian midfielder Sofiane Feghouli, free to play after his red card against Manchester

United last week was rescinded, blazed over in the opening seconds, while Pablo Zabaleta's effort was blocked after Silva teed him up as City responded.

Silva forced Adrian into a save with his feet, then Willy Caballero pushed out Michael Antonio's crisp strike as the sides traded blows.

Feghouli had the crowd on the edge of their seats with some clever wing play that was clearly troubling the visitors' backline.

City should have taken the lead when Sterling and Silva combined, but Hammers skipper Winston Reid retrieved the situation with a superb last-ditch challenge. Adrian then brilliantly tipped over Aguero's fierce volley.

But just after the half-hour mark City were handed an opportunity to take the lead. Angelo Ogbonna was

adjudged to have tripped Zabaleta, and Yaya Toure emphatically blasted home the resulting spot-kick.

Before the home side could make any headway, City doubled their advantage. Sterling converted from close range, although the final touch might have been from Hammers defender Havard Nordtveit.

Then, to rub salt into an already gaping wound, Silva added a third after Sterling provided the opening.

West Ham returned for the second period faced with little more than a damage limitation exercise. Aguero's angled drive was pushed over by Adrian and with their next meaningful foray forward they added a fourth.

Toure's effort was neatly flicked beyond Adrian by Aguero, heralding a mass exodus by home fans.

Defender John Stones headed a late fifth. Then Adrian was forced

into a flying save as Aguero looked to add a sixth.

West Ham return to Premier League action on Saturday, January 14 when Crystal Palace are the visitors to the London Stadium (3pm).

**West Ham United:** Adrian, Winston Reid (Capt), Aaron Cresswell, Havard Nordtveit, Sofiane Feghouli, Andy Carroll (Dimitri Payet 58'), Manuel Lanzini (Mark Noble 58'), Pedro Obiang, Angelo Ogbonna, Michail Antonio (Ashley Fletcher 72'), Edimilson Fernandes Subs not used: Darren Randolph, Jonathan Calleri, Reece Oxford, Domingos Quina

**Manchester City:** Willy Caballero, Bacary Sagna, Pablo Zabaleta (Capt), Raheem Sterling, Sergio Aguero, Kevin De Bruyne (Aleix Garcia 68'), David Silva (Nolito 58'), Gael Clithey, John Stones, Nicolas Otamendi, Yaya Toure (Fabian Delph 78') Subs not used: Claudio Bravo, Aleksandar Kolarov, Jesus Navas, Kelechi Iheanacho

**Referee:** Michael Oliver  
**Assistants:** Steve Child and Constantine Hatzidakis  
**Fourth Official:** Neil Swarbrick  
**Attendance:** 56,975

## THE BIG MATCH

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**Sky Bet League One  
Roots Hall Stadium  
Saturday, January 14, 3pm**



## Non-league round-up

## Daggers in fight for play-off place

**By Brian Jeeves**

DAGENHAM and Redbridge continued their quest for a National League play-off place as goals from Oliver Hawkins (2), Fejiri Okenabirhie and Luke Guttridge ensured a 4-0 victory at North Ferriby United.

Jack Midson put Braintree Town into a first half lead against Chester FC at Cressing Road, but a brace from James Alabi after the break saw the visitors return to the north-west with three points.

Chelmsford City's promotion charge picked up pace as a late Max Cornhill strike was enough to see off a Whitehawk side in front of a near 800 crowd at the Melbourne Stadium. Cornhill's goal came 10 minutes from time and moved the Clarets into third place in the National League South table.

It wasn't such a good afternoon for the region's other National South sides. Steve Cawley's goal wasn't enough to prevent Concord Rangers slipping to a 3-1 defeat to fellow strugglers, Weston-Super-Mare, at the Aspect arena. As a result, the Beach Boys slip back into the relegation places.

Meanwhile, East Thurrock United lost 6-1 at Dartford. Tom Wraight grabbed the Rocks' goal.

Canvey Island gave their hopes of Ryman League Premier Division survival a boost with a 1-0 win over Dulwich Hamlet at Park Lane. Steve Sheehan's header three minutes from time saw the Gulls extend their unbeaten sequence to three.

There were defeats for Billericay Town, who despite Lewis Taafe's strike slipped by the odd goal in three at Bognor Regis Town, and Grays Athletic, who went down 4-1 to Worthing. Kieran Bishop with Grays consolation goal.

Maldon & Tiptree were the big winners of the day in Ryman League Division One North. Kyle Hammond, Liam Nash (two), Rhys Henry and Tarryn Allarakhia, helped the league leaders to a 5-0 win at Dereham Town.

Brightlingsea Regent were in form as Tom Richardson, Danny Cossington (own goal), Connor Witherspoon and Shamido Pedulu ensured a 4-1 victory at Romford. Chinedu McKenzie responded for the hosts. Meanwhile, Ross Wall, Leon McKenzie and Jed Chouman were on target after the break as AFC Hornchurch saw off Waltham Abbey 3-0 at Bridge Avenue.

Jack Barham bagged a hat-trick as Tilbury won 3-2 at Wroxham, and Dean Fenton, Anthony Macdonald and Ralston Gabriel were on target for Haringey Borough in a 3-2 win over Brentwood Town. Andrew Freeman and Lamar Reynolds responded for Town.

Witham Town and Thurrock played out an entertaining 2-2 draw. Usman Adeniji and Tim Monsheju gave Town a 2-0 lead, Harry Cook and Charlie Stimson ensured a late share of the spoils for the visitors.

Adalberto Pinto put Aveley ahead at Heybridge Swifts, but Philip Anderson's late goal salvaged a point for the Swifts. There were defeats for Bowers & Pitsea, who went down 2-1 at Thamesmead Town, and Great Wakering Rovers, who crashed 5-0 to Ware at Burroughs Park.

In the Essex Senior League, Sawbridgeworth Town won at Redbridge 6-3. Sporting Bengal United were 5-0 winners over Waltham Forest. West Essex won a five-goal thriller with London Bari 3-2.

Basildon United won 2-1 at Enfield 1893 and Southend Manor also won on their travels, seeing off Wadham Lodge by a single goal. Eton Manor had a 3-1 win over Burnham Ramblers, and Tower Hamlets triumphed 2-0 at Haringey & Waltham.

Ilford and FC Romania shared four goals at the Cricklefield Stadium and there was another 2-2 draw at Lower Road between Hullbridge Sports and Barkingside.

In the ProKit UK Essex Olympian League Harold Hill won their Premier Division clash with White Ensign 4-1. Hat-tricks from Marcus Bowers and Ash Blackburn saw league leaders Basildon Town win their Division One fixture at Runwell Sports 6-1. In Division Three Debden Sports beat Shoebury Town 5-4 in a thriller.



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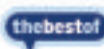
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